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Nine abandoned coal mines in Wheatland, Golden Valley and Yellowstone Counties, Montana

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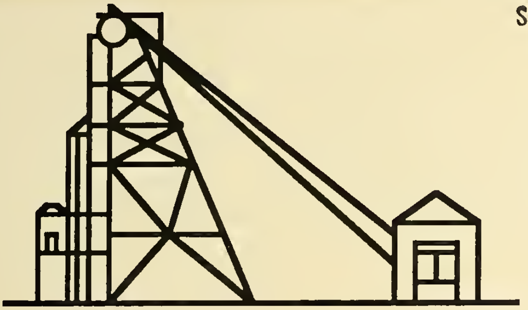

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ADDENDUM TO:
CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

of

Selected Abandoned Coal Mines in the Bull Mountain Coal Field - 1984

NINE ABANDONED COAL MINES IN WHEATLAND, GOLDEN VALLEY

and

YELLOWSTONE COUNTIES, MONTANA

for

The Montana Department of State Lands
1625 - 11th Ave.
Helena, MT 59601

January 1990

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Butte, Montana 59702
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INTRODUCTION

In January of 1989 GCM Services, Inc. of Butte, Montana was contracted by the Montana Department of State Lands, Helena, to perform a cultural resource inventory and evaluation of selected abandoned coal and hard rock mines in Montana as part of their abandoned mines reclamation program. In the winter of 1983-1984 GCM surveyed and evaluated 20 selected mine sites in the Bull Mountain coal field in central Montana (Anderson 1984). Since the original study, additional mine sites in the Bull Mountain coal field have occasionally been examined and recorded. Four additional sites in the Bull Mountains were examined and evaluated in 1987 (Anderson 1987). In the spring and summer of 1989, GCM surveyed and evaluated nine more sites in, or in the vicinity of, the Bull Mountain coal field. All mine sites are the remnants of abandoned small coal mines in Wheatland, Golden Valley and Yellowstone counties (Figure 1). The sites are characteristic of those sites described in the 1984 and 1987 reports and the background material remains the same. The reader should reference the 1984 report for the historic context.

The methodology used during the 1989 field study of the nine sites was essentially the same as that used during the 1983 and 1987 surveys. The fieldwork was conducted by Gene Munson and Coonie Moore during the spring and summer of 1989. Maps for the report were prepared by Jim Duran and the report was edited by Lynn Fredlund.

Site inventory forms for the mine sites are in Appendix A. For each site there is detailed information of the existing features, a historic discussion and an evaluation of the site in terms of its contribution to the history of the surrounding region. Maps and photographs supplement the written material. The site forms are on file at the state repositories at the State Historic Preservation Office in Helena and the Department of Anthropology at the University of Montana in Missoula.

All field notes, photographs and supportive information resulting from the cultural resource fieldwork will be maintained at the Montana Department of State Lands, Helena and GCM Services, Inc., Butte, Montana.

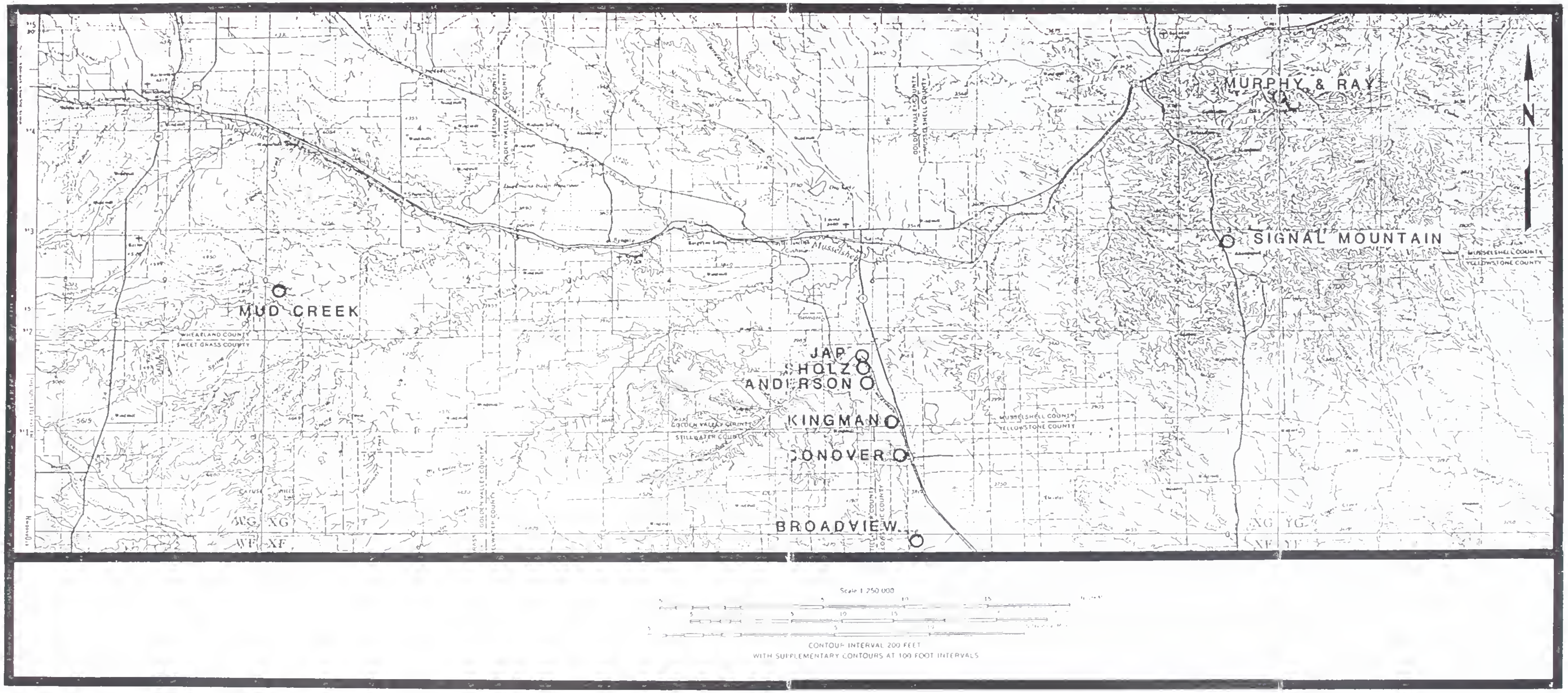

Figure 1. Map of the Project Area

Table 1. Legal description of the project sites.

Anderson mine	T5N R22E, NW1/4 NE1/4 Section 23
Broadview mine	T3N R23E, N1/2 Section 9
Conover mine	T4N R23E, SE1/4 Section 8
Jap mine	T5N R22E, SW1/4 SE1/4 Section 11
Kingman mine	T5N R23E, SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 31
Mud Creek mine	Center SE1/ 4 of Section 11
Murphy and Ray mine	T8N R27E, S1/2 Section 19
Sholz mine	T5N R22E, W1/2 NW1/4 of Section 14
Signal Mountain mine	T6N R26E, NW1/4 SW1/4 SE1/4 Section 9

Results of the Site Files and Records Search

A search of the site files in the State Historic Preservation Office in Helena for previously recorded historic/and or prehistoric sites revealed only one site which was located near the Kingman mine (24GV143). The site is listed as a historic bridge (24GV95) and is located in Section 31, T5N, R23E.

The Montana Historic Preservation Plan with Historic Sites Compendium (1975) lists two sites within the general vicinity of two of the project mine sites. The Milwaukee Road Electric Locomotive in Harlowton is near the Mud Creek mine (24WL119) and the Elijah Janich homestead, which is described as "a prime example of indigenous architecture of the prairie homestead era", is in the vicinity of the Signal Mountain mine (24ML399).

HISTORIC SITE NARRATIVES

Anderson mine - 24GV142

The Anderson mine was run by Jim Anderson during the Depression of the 1930s. It was a typical small commercial mine which sold coal for domestic use to communities, farms and ranches in the surrounding area. The mine was one of the few such mines that operated from a vertical shaft rather than a slope or horizontal adit. A mechanical hoist was at the top of the shaft for hauling the coal to the surface. An air shaft was located at the north end of the mine. It apparently did not have any mechanical forced air system and only relied on natural convection currents to provide air to the underground workings. The mine probably was operated by two or three men during the autumn and winters. Even though the coal seam was reported to have been relatively thin, the mine was in operation throughout the 1930s and had fairly extensive underground working. The operation was closed when the United States entered World War II in 1941 (J. Carl Jensen 1989; Jim Jensen 1989; Krause 1989; BLM mine lease files).

Broadview mine - 24YL796

The mine operated for only a brief period from 1934 to 1935 by a man named Maxwell. All the mining was done by hand and no machinery or motorized hoist was used. The mine was a typical small wagon mine which provided and few tons of coal for domestic use by nearby ranches and farms during the economic depression of the 1930s (Hieken 1989; Spidel 1989).

Conover mine - 24YL797

The Conover mine was a small wagon mine which was in operation during the period of World War I. It was reported to have been operated by Jim Anderson who later ran the Anderson mine (located a few miles to the north) during the depression of the 1930s. The Conover mine was probably operated during the autumn and winter by two or three miners to provide coal for nearby farms and ranches (Conover 1989).

Jap mine - 24GV140

The Jap mine was operated by Frank Mizuta, a Japanese-American (thus the name for the mine), on land leased from the Northern Pacific Railway Company. He opened the mine in 1930 and ran it through the Depression and up to 1942. The mine was equipped with a tipple and a cable hoist which hauled the mine cars up the slope adit. The mine cars used to haul up the slope were reported to have had buggy ties which ran on a track made of wooden 2 x 4s, although the mine cars used in the mine workings ran on conventional iron rails. Side entries ran off the one adit to the surface while an air shaft provided ventilation.

The mine was a small commercial operation which sold coal throughout the surrounding area for domestic use. The mine was in operation each autumn and winter until 1942 when, in the anti-Japanese hysteria following the attack at Pearl Harbor, government authorities took away all the dynamite and blasting caps at the mine, fearing that Mizuta might try to sabotage the nearby Painted Robe railroad tunnel. Mizuta was not interned during the war, as were so many other Japanese-Americans, but the loss of his dynamite effectively shut down the mine. He worked at odd jobs around the area and continued to live near the mine but never reopened it (J. Carl Jensen 1989; Jim Jensen 1989; Hank Krause 1989; BLM mine lease files).

Kingman mine - 24GV143

The Kingman mine was a small wagon mine which was reported to have been run during the period of World War I by Jim Anderson. During the 1930s Anderson also ran the Anderson mine located a few miles north of the Kingman. The Kingman probably operated, at the most, for just a few years during the autumn and winter in order to supply nearby farms and ranches with coal for domestic use. During the 1930s small amounts of coal were dug by local residents from the surface of the mine site for use during the economically hard times of the Depression (Conover 1989; Krause 1989).

Mud Creek mine - 24WL119

The Mud Creek mine operated during the Depression of the 1930s. It was reported to have been run by Roy Lilly until it closed shortly after the United States entered World War II. The operation was a typical small wagon mine operated by two or three men during autumn and winter. No mechanical equipment was used except for a hoist to haul the coal cars from the adits. Most of the coal was sold in Harlowton for about $2 a ton even though the area's coal seams were relatively thin and the coal was generally dirty and low-grade (Stone 1909; Blumer 1989; Cooney 1989).

Murphy and Ray mine - 24ML400

No coal had been mined in this area prior to the 1917 United States Geological Survey report on the Bull Mountain coal field (Woolsey et al. 1917) although local ranchers may have taken a few tons from surface prospects for domestic use. A shaft had been sunk in the northeast corner of Section 30 to determine if there was a coal bed of commercial value. The test revealed that the Roundup bed, which was the only bed of significance under the township, was too thin for commercial development.

The Murphy and Ray prospect was probably opened by the Northern Pacific Railroad which acquired Section 19 in 1897 (Patent #2). It is unlikely the railroad would have continued further development of the prospect since most of the coal seams in this area were too thin and the coal was too poor quality for commercial use. It was reported that small amounts of coal were mined from the site by local residents in the 1930s for use as a domestic fuel. The property was purchased from the railroad in 1950 by Cleede Ray, at which point all mining had long since ceased (Woolsey et al. 1917; Musselshell County Records; Ruth Dawson 1990).

Sholz mine - 24GV141

The Sholz mine was operated by Charley Sholz from 1917 to 1923. It was a small commercial mine which sold coal at $1.50 to $2 a ton to communities, farms and ranches throughout the area. The mine employed two or three men during the autumn and winter when it was in operation. The mine was reported to have been productive and profitable with a steady local market. However, even though the mine had not begun to exhaust the seam's accessible coal, it had to shut down prematurely because of problems with flooding (Krause 1989).

Signal Mountain mine and homestead - 24ML399

This small coal prospect operation and homestead are located on a section of land patented to the Northern Pacific Railroad (#136) on June 22, 1907 (BLM patent records).

The 1907 United States Geological Survey study of the Bull Mountain coal field (Woolsey 1909) described the coal in this area as part of the Mammoth bed which was the most important coal seam in the area. The bed measured from eight to 15 feet thick with a fuel value of over 10,000 B.t.u. The coal was described as soft, burned with a yellowish flame and gave off a pungent odor of sulphur. The coal slacked [or crumbled] easily when exposed to the air which limited its use for industrial purposes, although the railroads in latere years were able to use the coal from the Bull Mountain field in large amounts.

In 1917 the USGS report by Woolsey, Richards and Lupton reported that a prospect operation had been opened in the SW 1/4 of Section 9 on the Dougerty bed, located about 200 feet below the Mammoth bed. The location of this prospect is shown by Woolsey, Richards and Lupton to be about 1000 ft northwest of the Signal Mountain site. No active mining had occurred in the township at this point other than the prospect in Section 9 and another prospect in Section 36. The railroad may have opened the prospect at the Signal Mountain site about this same time but probably abandoned it since the coal in this vicinity is not well suited for use in locomotives (Woolsey et al. 1917).

The property was purchased from the railroad by E. H. Watson in October 1945. Previously, the site had been leased from the railroad by Dominic Vescovi who was reported to have mined small amounts of coal from the prospect during the 1930s. At the most, no more than 50 to 100 tons of coal were taken from this small mine, probably during the 1920s and 1930s. The structures on the site are all farm buildings and were not connected to the operation of the mine. The structures were reported to have dated from the 1930s (Mitchell 1990; I.L.A. Richard 1990: Musselshell County records, n.d.).

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The small coal mines examined for this report are similar to other small family and/or commercial coal mines which were once scattered throughout the Bull Mountain coal field in central Montana. These mines were active during the first four decades of the twentieth century, until World War II when most were shut down. The Bull Mountains were one of the few areas where underground mines remained in operation after the war and, in a few cases, were not closed until the early 1970s. Most of these mines were worked in the autumn and winter by the mine owner and perhaps two or three other workers. Few of the mines used any large machinery and, for the most part, the coal was mined by hand labor. The largest piece of machinery found at these small mines would have been a mechanical cable hoist, usually hand-built, used to bring the coal from the shaft or adit. Occasionally a mule or horse was used to haul coal from the mine but, in most cases, the workings of these mines were too small for horses or mules to operate in. When active, these mines were not individually of great economic importance outside their immediate area and as historic sites, their remnants are not of great individual significance. However, when taken as a whole, these small mines were collectively of vital significance as a source of fuel and/or income (especially during the economic hard times of the 1930s) for the ranchers, farmers and small communities throughout the region. Historically, these small mines were a key factor during in making settlement of the region possible. During the homesteading era when the region's farms, ranches and towns were being established, coal was the only economic and practical fuel available. In large part, it was provided by small mines such as these.

All the sites examined for this report have retained integrity of location and setting. Five of the sites: the Broadview (24YL796), Conver (24YL797), Kingman (24GV143), Mud Creek (24GV142), and Murphy and Ray (24ML400) consist of little more than mine openings and coal waste piles. There is little evidence on these sites to suggest that significant surface structures existed when the sites were active other than perhaps a small tipple or loadout at the adit entrances. These sites have thus remained essentially unchanged and therefore have retained integrity. The Anderson (24GY142), Jap (24GV140) and Sholz (24GV141) mines once had surface structural features which have either been removed, destroyed or have badly deteriorated thus the sites have lost their physical integrity. The Signal Mountain mine and homestead site (24ML399) has retained good physical integrity. The surface structure are not associated with the operation of the mine, although it was reported that the presidents of the homestead took small amounts of coal for their own domestic use. The mine consists of little more than a prospect adit which was apparently sunk by the Northern Pacific Railroad before the homestead was established.

None of the sites were individually of sufficient economic or historic significance to warrant a recommendation of eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Nor does it appear that any of the sites would provide additional important information on mining history or technology.

At Mud Creek mine site (24WL119), a prehistoric component was recorded, consisting of a light scatter of flakes and six hearths eroding out of the stream bank. The site appears to have been inhabited over a long period of time and has potential to yield significant information on the local prehistory. It is recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under criterion D.

The prehistoric portion of the Mud Creek site should be avoided during reclamation of the abandoned coal mine. This can be done by limiting reclamation activities to the south side of the creek. The contractor should have a map that clearly shows the location of the prehistoric site. Access across the prehistoric portion of the site should be limited to a corridor of low potential for

prehistoric remains (see attached site map in the site form, Appendix A). As an added precaution, this corridor should be staked. The historic portion of the site has been recorded, photographed and mapped and no further work is recommended.

The eight remaining sites have also been examined, recorded, photographed and mapped and no additional work is recommended at any of the mines.

The Montana Department of State Lands plans to close mine openings, remove or reclaim coal waste areas, and remove remaining structures and debris at all the sites except for the Signal Mountain site (24ML399). At the Signal Mountain site none of the standing structures will be disturbed except for a collapsed shed which is to be removed.

The mine openings are a serious safety hazard and the coal waste areas are sources of ground water pollution. The Department of State Lands reclamation program should be allowed to proceed on schedule to eliminate these hazardous and unhealthy situations. If any subsurface prehistoric or historic cultural materials are revealed during the reclamation work, the Preservation Office in Helena should be notified immediately.

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MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 1. Locational Information

1.1 Site Number 24GV142	**1.2 Site Name** Anderson Mine	**1.3 County** Golden Valley

1.4 Township/Range: T5N R22E, NW1/4 NE1/4 Section 23

1.5 UTM: Zone	**Easting**	**Northing**
12	659850	5115350

1.6 Site type: Historic coal mine

1.7 Recording status: The site has been recorded, mapped and photographed.

1.8 Administrative/surface ownership:
J. C. Jensen, Inc.
c/o Carl Jensen
176 Jensen Road
Lavina, Montana 59043

1.9 Mineral ownership:

1.10 Project name: Montana Department of State Lands Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program

1.11 General narrative description of site:
The site consists of a small abandoned coal mine. The site is in the bottom of a small coulee and consists of a pile of coal slack, an air vent, a dugout and a scatter of cultural debris.

1.12 Map reference: USGS Belmont, Mont. - 7.5 minute - 1979

1.13 City/town:
Vicinity of: Broadview, Montana

1.14 Access to site: Drive north from Broadview on Montana Highway 3 for 7 miles. Turn west onto a graveled road for 3/4 mile then turn south onto a two track trail. Follow this trail for a little over 2 miles. From this point the site is about 1/8 of a mile to the east.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 2. Environmental Setting

Site No.: 24GV142

2.1 Geographic Setting:

General: The site is located in the open plains of central Montana. Numerous low relief ridges capped in sandstone cover the landscape giving it a somewhat rugged appearance.

Local: The site is located on a north/south trending ridge. The head of a small coulee begins at the site, intersecting the Cottonwood Creek drainage about 1/2 mile to the south.

2.2 Elevation: 3760 ft (1146 m)

2.3 View/aspect: limited within the coulee.

2.4 Major drainage: Cottonwood Creek (a tributary of the Musselshell River).

2.5 Minor drainage: unnamed tributary of Cottonwood Creek

2.6 Water sources

Names	Distance (in m)	Elev. Change (in m)	Type/ seasonality
1. Cottonwood Creek	-	-	-
2.			

2.7 Vegetation - regional: Central Grassland (Payne 1976)

2.8 Vegetation - local: Sagebrush and bunch grasses

2.9 Soils: grey clay

2.10 Surface visibility/season of survey: good/spring

2.11 Other environmental factors pertaining to site location:

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 3. Site Assessment and Recording Documentation

Site No.: 24GV142

3.1 Integrity/Condition of site: The site is deteriorated with most of the surface facilities either removed or in ruins. Only coal waste piles, a board-lined air shaft and the collapsed ruins of a dugout remain from the original mining operation.

3.2 Site significance (NRHP): The site has had structures removed which destroyed the physical integrity. The other features provide evidence of this small coal mine but it has no historical significance and is not recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

3.3 Impacts: The Department of State Lands plans to backfill the air shaft and one subsidence pit; bury the coal waste; remove the debris and structural remains; and reclaim and revegetate the disturbed areas.

3.4 Recommendations:
The site has been photographed, mapped and recorded. No further work is recommended.

3.5 Site located by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/5/89

3.6 Site recorded by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/5/89

3.7 Revisions by: **Date:**

3.8 Permit No.: N/A

3.9 Publication(s) where site is described: Addendum 1989: to the Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of Selected Abandoned Coal Mines in the Bull Mountain Coal Field, 1984. Prepared for the Montana Department of State Lands by GCM Services, Inc., Butte.

3.10 Artifact repository: none collected

3.11 Fieldnotes/maps/photo repository: GCM Services, Inc., Butte, MT

3.12 Photo and accession numbers:

No.	Description	View
24	general view of site	S
25	air shaft	W
26	dugout (feature 1)	S
27 & 28	dugout feature 1	E
29	feature 7	W
30	overview	E

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 5. Description of Historic Sites

Site No.:24GV142

5.1 Site dimensions, shape, how dimensions determined: 240,000 ft^2 (73,000 m^2) The site measures 500 ft north/south x 480 ft east/west. This is the area in which the features and artifacts are located.

5.2 Features:

Feature 1 - the ruins of a dugout-like structure which was built into the northwest edge of the coal slack pile. It measures 12 ft northwest/southeast x 12 ft northeast/southwest with an 8 ft long x 4 ft wide entrance (3 ft inside) that opens to the northwest. The walls of the pit in which structure was built are lined with square-cut railroad ties and the roof (which is partially missing on the southwest side) is made of what appears to be triangular split railroad ties. The roof is gabled and covered with coal slack.

Feature 2 - an air shaft that measures 5 ft in diameter. The bottom of the shaft is 15 ft deep. The top 7 ft are collared with a cylinder made of 3 x 4s and 2 x 6s that have been attached to two 1 x 3/16 in steel bands. The bands are very likely rims from wooden wagon wheels. Each band is about 1 ft from the end of the cylinder. Debris is scattered around the air shaft. However, there is nothing to suggest that it had any surface fans to assist in circulating air in the mine.

Feature 3 - a 25 ft northwest/southeast x 18 ft northeast/southwest rectangular hole that is 5 ft deep. On the northwest side is an alignment of sandstone, suggestive of a foundation and in the bottom is the remains of a brick chimney. There are a few bricks scattered about the hole.

Feature 4 - a leveled area which measures 15 ft north/south x 20 ft east/west in the slopeland on the north side of the site. The ground may have been leveled for a building site. There are pieces of boards scattered around the feature but there is no clear indication of building remains.

Feature 5 - an 8 ft diameter x 1.5 ft deep depression 20 ft west of Feature 1. This is the location of an original 56 ft deep mine shaft which has collapsed.

Feature 6 - a 100 ft north/south x 80 ft east/west x 16 ft high coal slack pile.

Feature 7 - a 9 ft in diameter round wood object made of two layers of 2 x 12 planks with each layer nailed to the other at right angles. On top of the round base are three 4 x 4 in beams that are 5 ft long. They are joined together at the corners at 90°. The object has been partially burnt. Its proximity to the mine's original shaft may indicate it was the base for a hoist or other piece of machinery.

5.3 Artifacts (observed, collected):

There is wood and thin sheet metal scattered around the site. Other artifacts are an engine crankshaft, rear end gears (i.e., spider and pinion), car body parts (circa 1920s), cans, glass, a spoon, wash tub, tires, bricks and crockery.

5.4 Historical information and evaluation:

The Anderson mine was run by Jim Anderson during the Depression of the 1930s. It was a typical small commercial mine which sold coal for domestic use to communities, farms and

ranches in the surrounding area. The mine was one of the few such mines that operated from a vertical shaft rather than a slope or horizontal adit. A mechanical hoist was at the top of the shaft for hauling the coal to the surface. An air shaft was located at the north end of the mine. It apparently did not have any mechanical forced air system and only relied on natural convection currents to provide air to the underground workings. The mine probably was operated by two or three men during the autumn and winters. Even though the coal seam was reported to have been relatively thin, the mine was operation throughout the 1930s and had fairly extensive underground working. The operation was closed when the United States entered World War II in 1941 (J. Carl Jensen 1989, Jim Jensen 1989, Krause 1989; BLM mine lease files).

5.5 References:

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n.d. Billings Series - Licenses, Permits and Leases, Mine lease records, Billings Office, Billings, Montana.

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1989 Personal communication. December 14, Lavina, Montana.

Payne, Gene F.
1973 Vegetative Rangeland Types in Montana. Montana Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 671. Montana State University, Bozeman.

5.6 Subsurface testing results, methods, stratigraphy, etc.: none

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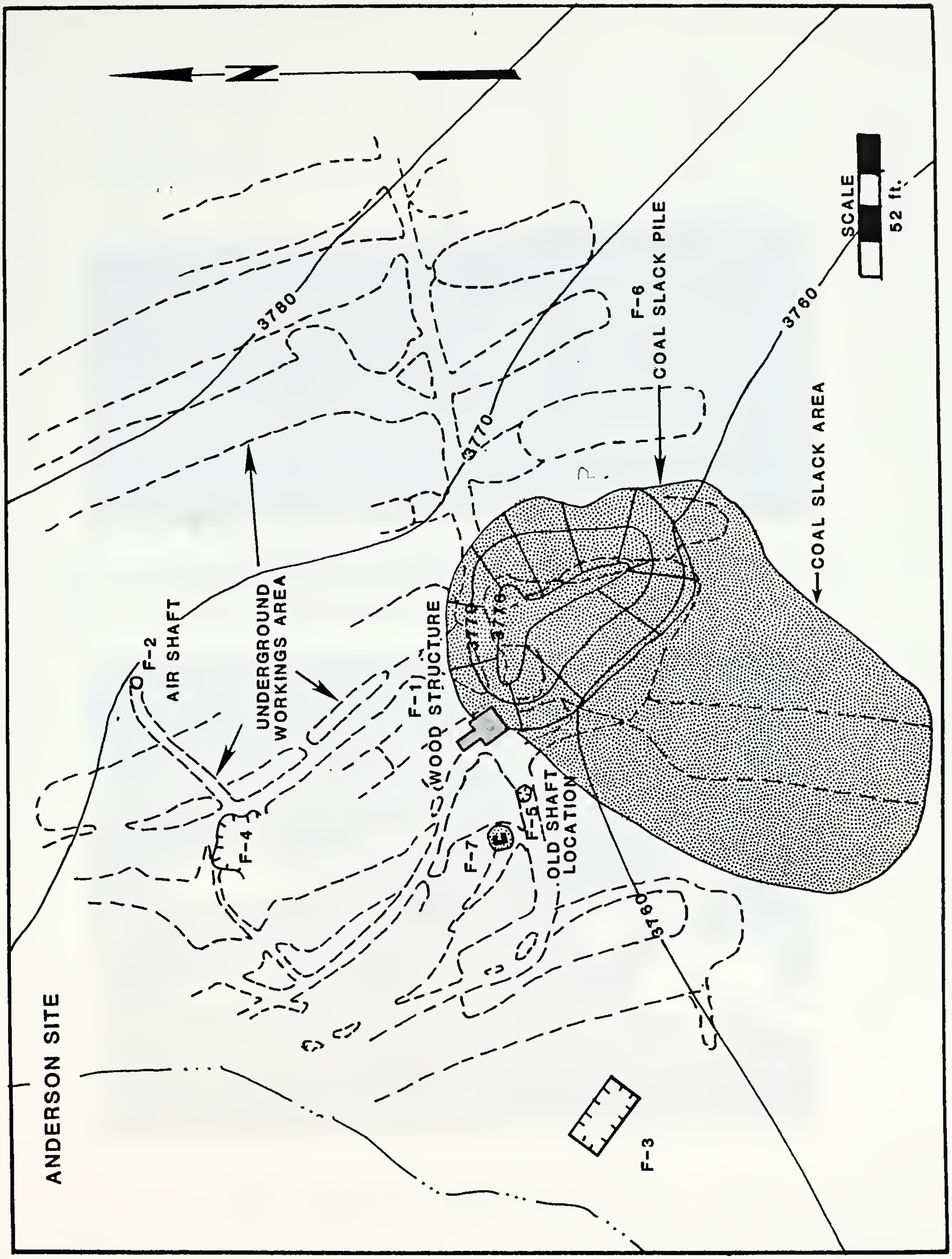
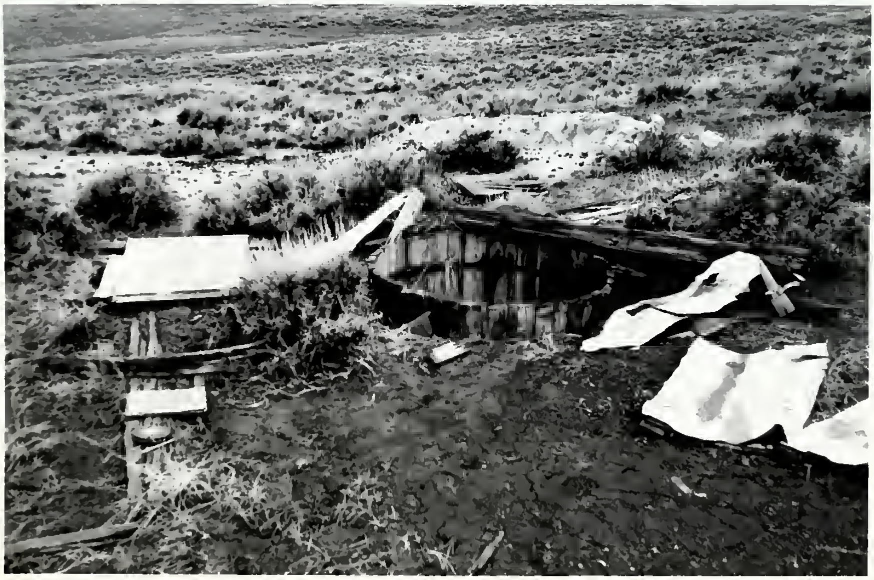
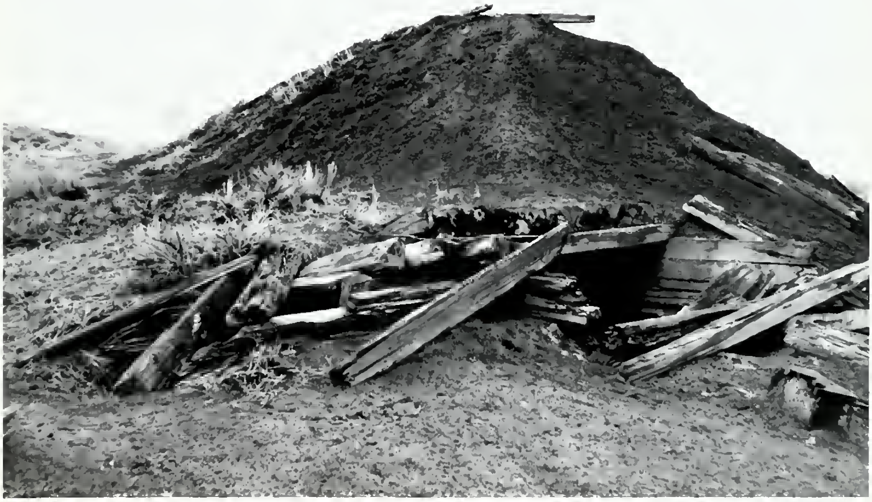


Map of the Anderson mine site (24GV142).

General view of the Anderson site (looking east).



The air shaft at the Anderson mine.



Collapsed dugout at the base of the Anderson mine coal waste pile (view to south).

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 1. Locational Information

1.1 Site Number 24YL796	**1.2 Site Name** Broadview Mine	**1.3 County** Yellowstone

1.4 Township/Range: T3N R23E, N1/2 Section 9

1.5 UTM:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
	12	664500	5099450

1.6 Site type: Historic coal mine

1.7 Recording status: The site has been recorded, mapped and photographed.

1.8 Administrative/surface ownership:

Edward Spidel
727 Goulding Creek Road
Roundup, MT 59072
(406) 323-1087

1.9 Mineral ownership:

1.10 Project name: Montana Department of State Lands Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program

1.11 General narrative description of site:
The site is an adit entrance and a coal slack pile of an abandoned coal mine.

1.12 Map reference: USGS Broadview West, Mont. - 7.5 minute - 1980

1.13 City/town:
Vicinity of: Broadview, Montana

1.14 Access to site:
Drive south from Broadview on a gravel road marked as the Buffalo Trail Road. Follow this road for 4 miles. Hike east for about 1/2 mile to the site.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 2. Environmental Setting

Site No. 24YL796

2.1 Geographic Setting:

General: The site is located in the open plains of central Montana. Numerous low relief ridges capped in sandstone cover the landscape, giving it a somewhat rugged appearance.

Local: The site is on the west slope of a low north/south trending ridge.

2.2 Elevation: 3875 ft (1181 m)

2.3 View/aspect: open

2.4 Major drainage: Comanche Creek

2.5 Minor drainage:

2.6 Water sources

	Names	Distance Elev. Change (in m)	Type/ (in m)	seasonality
1.				
2.				

2.7 Vegetation - regional: Central grasslands (Payne 1973)

2.8 Vegetation - local: sagebrush and bunchgrasses

2.9 Soils: grey clay loam and light brown loam

2.10 Surface visibility/season of survey: good/spring

2.11 Other environmental factors pertaining to site location:

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 3. Site Assessment and Recording Documentation

Site No. 24YL796

3.1 Integrity/Condition of site: The site consists of an adit entrance and coal slack pile. There is no evidence that signfiicant structures existed on the site. The site, therefore, has retained integrity since it remains much as it was when it was in operation.

3.2 Site significance (NRHP):
Although the site has integrity, it does not have significant individual economic or historical signfiicance which would make it eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

3.3 Impacts: The Department of State Lands plans to close the adit opening and reclaim the surface areas where coal waste is located.

3.4 Recommendations: The site has been recorded, mapped and photographed and no further work is recommended.

3.5 Site located by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/6/89

3.6 Site recorded by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/6/89

3.7 Revisions by: **Date:**

3.8 Permit No.: N/A

3.9 Publication(s) where site is described: Addendum 1989: to the Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of Selected Abandoned Coal Mines in the Bull Mountain Coal Field, 1984. Prepared for the Montana Department of State Lands by GCM Services, Inc., Butte.

3.10 Artifact repository: none collected

3.11 Fieldnotes/maps/photo repository: GCM Services, Inc., Butte, MT

3.12 Photo and accession numbers:

No.	Description	View
3	overview of site	SE

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 5. Description of Historic Sites

Site No. 24YL796

5.1 Site dimensions, shape, how dimensions determined: 53,000 ft^2 (16,200 m^2)
The site measures 90 ft north/south and 180 ft east/west. This is the area in which the adit entry and coal slack are located.

5.2 Features:
Feature 1 - an adit entry. The entrance is at the end of a 30 x 30 ft area which has been excavated into the hillside.

Feature 2 - a coal slack pile measuring 40 x 70 ft in area.

5.3 Artifacts (observed, collected): A few boards and a broken 5 gallon crockery container.

5.4 Historical information and evaluation:
The mine operated for only a brief period from 1934 to 1935 by a man named Maxwell. All the mining was done by hand and no machinery or motorized hoist was used. The mine was a typical small wagon mine which provided and few tons of coal for domestic use by nearby ranches and farms during the economic depression of the 1930s (Hieken 1989; Spidel 1989).

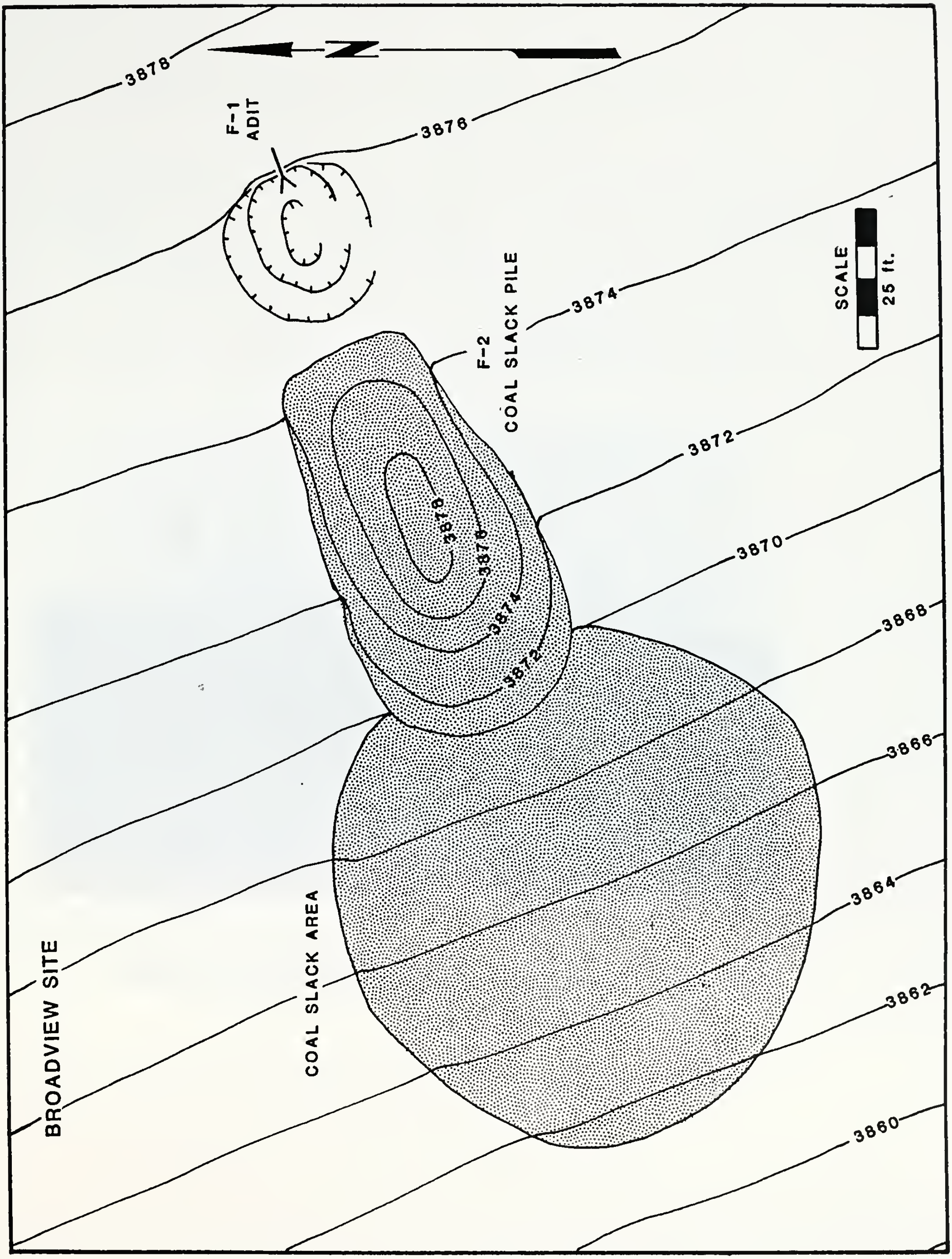
5.5 References:

Hieken, Carl
1989 Personal communication. December 15, Broadview, Montana.

Payne, Gene F.
1973 Vegetative Rangeland Types in Montana. Montana Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 671. Montana State University, Bozeman.

Spidel, Edward
1989 Personal communication. December 15, Broadview, Montana.

5.6 Subsurface testing results, methods, stratigraphy, etc.: none



Map of the Broadview mine site (24YL796).

General view of the Broadview mine site looking southeast.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 1. Locational Information

1.1 Site Number	**1.2 Site Name**	**1.3 County**
24YL797	Conover Mine	Yellowstone

1.4 Township/Range: T4N R23E, SE1/4 Section 8

1.5 UTM: Zone	**Easting**	**Northing**
12	663300	5108100

1.6 Site type: Historic coal mine

1.7 Recording status: The site has been recorded, mapped and photographed.

1.8 Administrative/surface ownership:
Robert Conover, et al.
Broadview, MT 59015
(406) 667-2226

1.9 Mineral ownership:

1.10 Project name: Montana Department of State Lands Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program

1.11 General narrative description of site:
The site consists of a vertical shaft and a small coal slack pile from an abandoned coal mine.

1.12 Map reference: USGS Broadview West, Mont. - 7.5 minute - 1980

1.13 City/town:
Vicinity of: Broadview, Montana

1.14 Access to site:
Drive north from Broadview for 3/4 mile and turn west onto a gravel road that has a road sign that reads Conover Road. Follow the road for 1/4 mile. Hike south for 3/8 mile to the site.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 2. Environmental Setting

Site No. 24YL797

2.1 Geographic Setting:
General: The site is located in the open plains of central Montana. Numerous low relief ridges, capped in sandstone, cover the landscape giving it a somewhat rugged appearance.

Local: The site is on a north/south trending ridge that borders the west side of a small recreational pond north of Broadview.

2.2 Elevation: 3872 ft (1180 m)

2.3 View/aspect: open

2.4 Major drainage: Sand Creek

2.5 Minor drainage:

2.6 Water sources

Names	Distance (in m)	Elev. Change (in m)	Type/ seasonality
1.			
2.			

2.7 Vegetation - regional:
Central grassland (Payne 1973).

2.8 Vegetation - local: bunchgrasses, crested wheatgrass, and Russian olive trees.

2.9 Soils: brown loam

2.10 Surface visibility/season of survey: good/spring

2.11 Other environmental factors pertaining to site location:

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 3. Site Assessment and Recording Documentation

Site No. 24YL797

3.1 Integrity/Condition of site: The site consists of an adit entrance and coal slack pile. There is no evidence that significant structures once existed on the site. The site, therefore, has retained integrity since it remains much as it was when it was in operation.

3.2 Site significance (NRHP): Althgouth the site has integrity, it does not have significant individual economic or historical significance which would make it eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

3.3 Impacts: The Department of State Lands (DSL) proposes to backfill the shaft and cover the coal slack pile with soil.

3.4 Recommendations:
The site has been photographed, mapped and recorded. No further work is recommended.

3.5 Site located by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/5/89

3.6 Site recorded by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/5/89

3.7 Revisions by: **Date:**

3.8 Permit No.: N/A

3.9 Publication(s) where site is described: Addendum 1989: to the Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of Selected Abandoned Coal Mines in the Bull Mountain Coal Field, 1984. Prepared for the Montana Department of State Lands by GCM Services, Inc., Butte.

3.10 Artifact repository: none collected

3.11 Fieldnotes/maps/photo repository: GCM Services, Inc., Butte, MT

3.12 Photo and accession numbers:

No.	Description	View
1	overview	S
2	shaft	

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 5. Description of Historic Sites

Site No. 24YL797

5.1 Site dimensions, shape, how dimensions determined: 12,800 ft^2 (4200 m^2) The site measures 60 ft north/south x 70 ft east/west. This is the area in which the features are located.

5.2 Features:

Feature 1 - a 7 ft x 8 ft x 30 ft deep shaft. A wire fence surrounds the shaft opening.

Feature 2 - a 25 ft north/south x 35 ft east/west coal slack pile located adjacent to the shaft (Feature 1).

Feature 3 - a drilled well and 6 in galvanized casing exposed on the surface. The casing is thin-walled and what is called in drilling industry as "stove pipe" casing.

5.3 Artifacts (observed, collected): Artifacts consist of two bricks, a broken bottle and a few boards.

5.4 Historical information and evaluation:

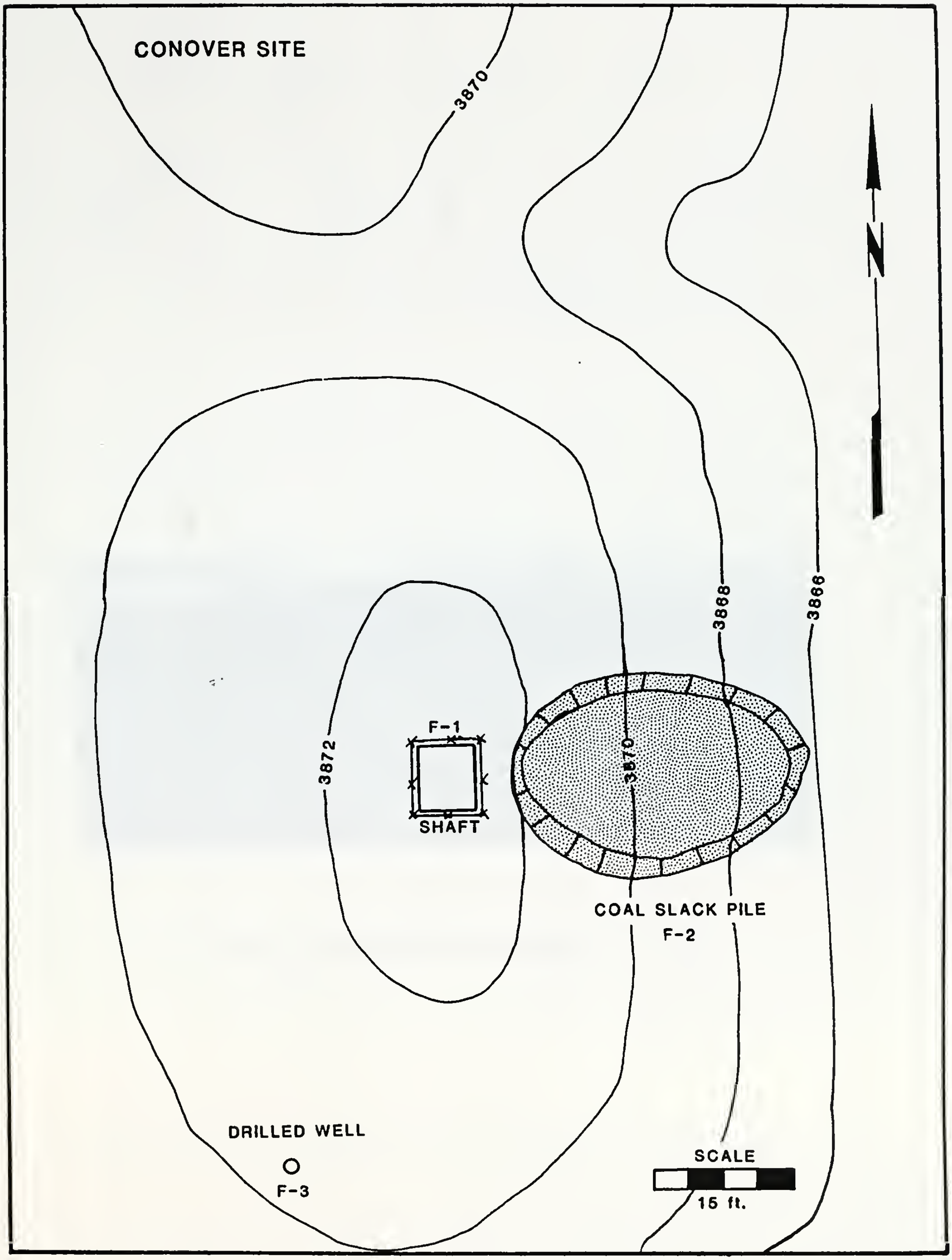
The Conover mine was a small wagon mine which was in operation during the period of World War I. It was reported to have been operated by Jim Anderson who later ran the Anderson mine (located a few miles to the north) during the depression of the 1930s. The Conover mine was probably operated during the autumn and winter by two or three miners to provide coal for nearby farms and ranches (Conover 1989).

5.5 References:

Conover, Robert
1989 Personal communication. December 14, Broadview, Montana.

Payne, Gene F.
1973 Vegetative Rangeland Types in Montana. Montana Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 671. Montana State University, Bozeman.

5.6 Subsurface testing results, methods, stratigraphy, etc.:



Map of the Conover mine site (24YL797).

View of the Conover site looking south.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 1. Locational Information

1.1 Site Number 24GV140	**1.2 Site Name** Jap Mine	**1.3 County** Golden Valley

1.4 Township/Range: T5N R22E, SW1/4 SE1/4 Section 11

1.5 UTM:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
	12	659400	5117250

1.6 Site type: Historic coal mine

1.7 Recording status: The site has been recorded, mapped and photographed.

1.8 Administrative/surface ownership:

J. C. Jensen, Inc.
c/o Carl Jensen
176 Jensen Road
Lavina, MT 59043 (phone (406) 636-2156

1.9 Mineral ownership:

1.10 Project name: Montana Department of State Lands Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program.

1.11 General narrative description of site:
The sites consists of a collapsed adit entry, coal slack piles, a collapsed air shaft, a partially collapsed log house, a collapsed wood frame shed, two coal carts, tin, bottles and other debris from an abandoned small coal mine.

1.12 Map reference: USGS Belmont, Mont. - 7.5 minute - 1979

1.13 City/town:
Vicinity of: Broadview, Montana

1.14 Access to site:
Drive north from Broadview on State Highway 3 for 7 miles. Turn west onto a graveled road for 3/4 mile then turn south onto a two track trail. Follow the trail south for one mile to the site.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 2. Environmental Setting

Site No. 24GV140

2.1 Geographic Setting:
General: The site is located in the open plains of central Montana. Numerous low relief ridges, capped in sandstone, cover the landscape giving it a somewhat rugged appearance.

Local: The site is located on both the east and west terrace banks of an unnamed tributary of Painted Robe Creek.

2.2 Elevation: 3680 ft (1122 m)

2.3 View/aspect: open

2.4 Major drainage: Painted Robe Creek

2.5 Minor drainage: an unnamed tributary of Painted Robe Creek

2.6 Water sources

Names	Distance (in m)	Elev. Change (in m)	Type/ seasonality
1.			
2.			

2.7 Vegetation - regional: Central grassland (Payne 1973)

2.8 Vegetation - local: sagebrush and short bunchgrasses.

2.9 Soils: gray clay loam and brown loam

2.10 Surface visibility/season of survey: good/spring

2.11 Other environmental factors pertaining to site location:
Railroad grade fill from the Burlington Northern borders the site on its southwest side.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 3. Site Assessment and Recording Documentation

Site No. 24GV140

3.1 Integrity/Condition of the site:
The surface structures at the site have either collapsed or are badly deteriorated. The site is considered to be in poor condition but the basic integrity and setting and place are retained by the remaining features.

3.2 Site significance (NRHP): Although the mine owner was Japanese-American and was subjected to some persecution during the war, the site is not considered to be historically significant under criterion A or B. The remaining features have had little disturbance and thus retain some semblance of physical integrity. However, they are not considered to be eligible to the NRHP under criteria A, C or D.

3.3 Impacts:
The Department of State Lands (DSL) proposes to remove the structures, clean up the debris and cover the coal slack dumps with soil.

3.4 Recommendations:
The site has been photographed, mapped and recorded. No further work is recommended.

3.5 Site located by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/5/89

3.6 Site recorded by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/5/89

3.7 Revisions by: **Date:**

3.8 Permit No.: N/A

3.9 Publication(s) where site is described: Addendum 1989: to the Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of Selected Abandoned Coal Mines in the Bull Mountain Coal Field, 1984. Prepared for the Montana Department of State Lands by GCM Services, Inc., Butte.

3.10 Artifact repository: none collected

3.11 Fieldnotes/maps/photo repository: GCM Services, Inc., Butte, MT

3.12 Photo and accession numbers:

No.	Description	View
2-6	Feature 1	W/N/E/S
7	Feature 2	N
8	overview	E
9	coal cart	
10-11	adit entry	E
12-13	air shaft	E
14	overview	W

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 5. Description of Historic Sites

Site No. 24GV140

5.1 Site dimensions, shape, how dimensions determined: 95,000 ft^2
The site measures 250 ft north/south x 380 ft east/west. This is the area in which the features and cultural debris are located.

5.2 Features:
Feature 1 - consists of a log house that measures 22 ft north/south x 16 ft east/west. The roof is missing and was probably removed. Logs measure 6 inches to 10 inches in diameter and are tied together at the corners of the building by square notches. Two to four 20-penny wire spikes were driven into the notch area to further secure the corners (wire nails were used exclusively in the building). The spaces between the logs are daubed with mortar. No chinking was observed. The logs on the inside walls have been worked with an adze. A 2 x 4 and board wall that is now collapsed, partitioned the inside of the house into two rooms of about equal size. The foundation is made of local tabular cut sandstone set to courses two to three high. It is of dry wall construction. Flooring is 1 x 4 tongue and groove fir. The logs on the inside of the north and south walls have been numbered in large freehand numbers made with a brush using green paint. The numbering, starting with the bottom log on the south wall, reads "S1", the second log reads "S2", etc. The top log reads "S10". The logs on the north wall are number similarly except they begin with the letter "N". This numbering would indicate the cabin was built elsewhere and was probably reassembled at the mine site.

Feature 2 - a collapsed shed of frame construction. The walls are 2 x 4 dimensional lumber with 1 x 6 boards and the roof is 2 x 6 dimensional lumber with 1 x 6 boards covering. The roof may have been gabled. The structure measured approximately 14 ft north/south x 8 ft east/west. Wire nails were used exclusively.

Feature 3 - a trash area that measures about 10 ft north/south x 20 ft east/west. The trash area consists almost entirely of tin cans, including: condensed milk, tobacco and sardine cans. They are all of the modern crimp style of construction. There are only a few bottles.

Feature 4 - a collapsed root cellar located in the stream bank east of the log cabin (Feature 1).

Feature 5 - a collapsed adit entrance. It has the typical timbered entrance except for the roof where railroad ties were used. The ties have been split into triangular shape.

Feature 6 - the coal load-out facility. Not enough of it still exists for a description of how it worked. Currently, all that remains are two upright posts that are tied together with a 2 x 12 header.

Feature 7 - the air shaft. The air shaft measures approximately 8 ft in diameter. In order to make it draw air better, a 2 ft diameter x 14 ft long flue made of 20 gauge steel was placed over the shaft. The flue was made by riveting rolled sheet metal together in a patch work manner. The flue has fallen over and is resting on the ground. Originally it was on a cast iron and metal base.

Feature 8 - the two coal slack piles in front of the adit. Coal slack pile No. 1 is small, measuring only 35 ft north/south x 20 ft east/west. It is probably the result of spill over from the

loadout facility (Feature 6). Coal slack pile No. 2 is fairly large measuring 75 ft north/south x 60 ft east/west.

5.3 Artifacts (observed, collected):

Artifacts consist of bed springs located inside Feature 1; a wood cook stove with "PEN-NSULAR" embossed on it in several places; tin cans and bottles located in Feature 3; and pieces of tin, a shovel (handle missing), boot soles, chimney tile and two coal carts are scattered over the site area. All that remains of the carts are part of the boxes. They are around the 800 lb size.

5.4 Historical information and evaluation:

The Jap mine was operated by Frank Mizuta, a Japanese-American (thus the name for the mine), on land leased from the Northern Pacific Railway Company. He opened the mine in 1930 and ran it through the Depression of the 1930s and up to 1942. The mine was equipped with a tipple and a cable hoist which hauled the mine cars up the slope adit. The mine cars used to haul up the slope were reported to have had buggy ties which ran on a track made of wooden 2 x 4s, although the mine cars used in the mine workings ran on conventional iron rails. Side entries ran off the one adit to the surface while an air shaft provided ventilation.

The mine was a small commercial operation which sold coal throughout the surrounding area for domestic use. The mine was in operation each autumn and winter until 1942 when, in the anti-Japanese hysteria following the attack at Pearl Harbor, government authorities took away all the dynamite and blasting caps at the mine, fearing that Mizuta might try to sabotage the nearby Painted Robe railroad tunnel. Mizuta was not interned during the war, as were so many other Japanese-Americans, but the loss of his dynamite effectively shut down the mine. He worked at odd jobs around the area and continued to live near the mine but never reopened it (J. Carl Jensen 1989; Jim Jensen 1989; Hank Krause 1989; BLM mine lease files).

5.5 References:

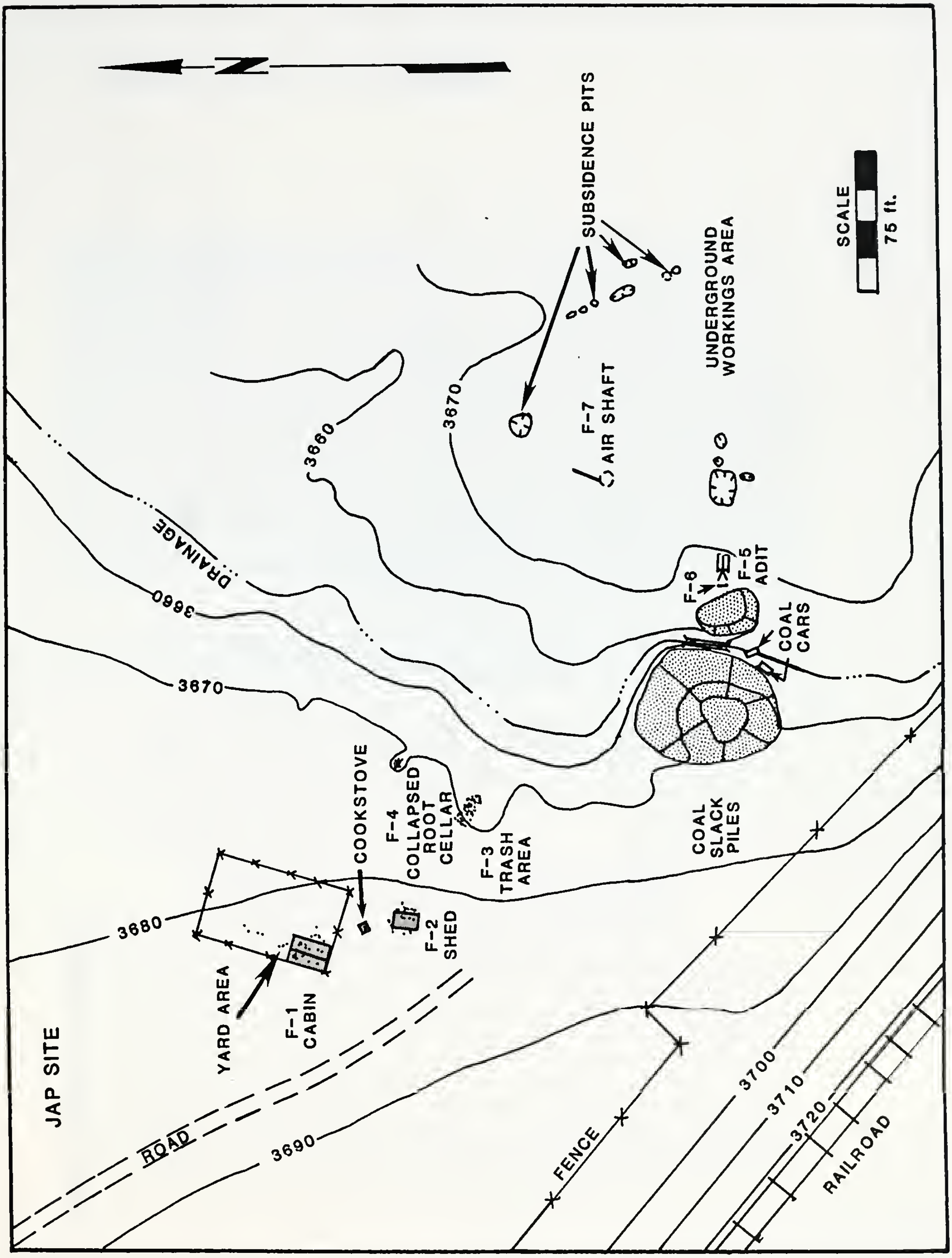
Bureau of Land Management
n.d. Billings Series - Licenses, Permits and Leases, Mine lease records, Billings Office, Billings, Montana.

Jensen, Jim
1989 Personal communication. December 14, Lavina, Montana

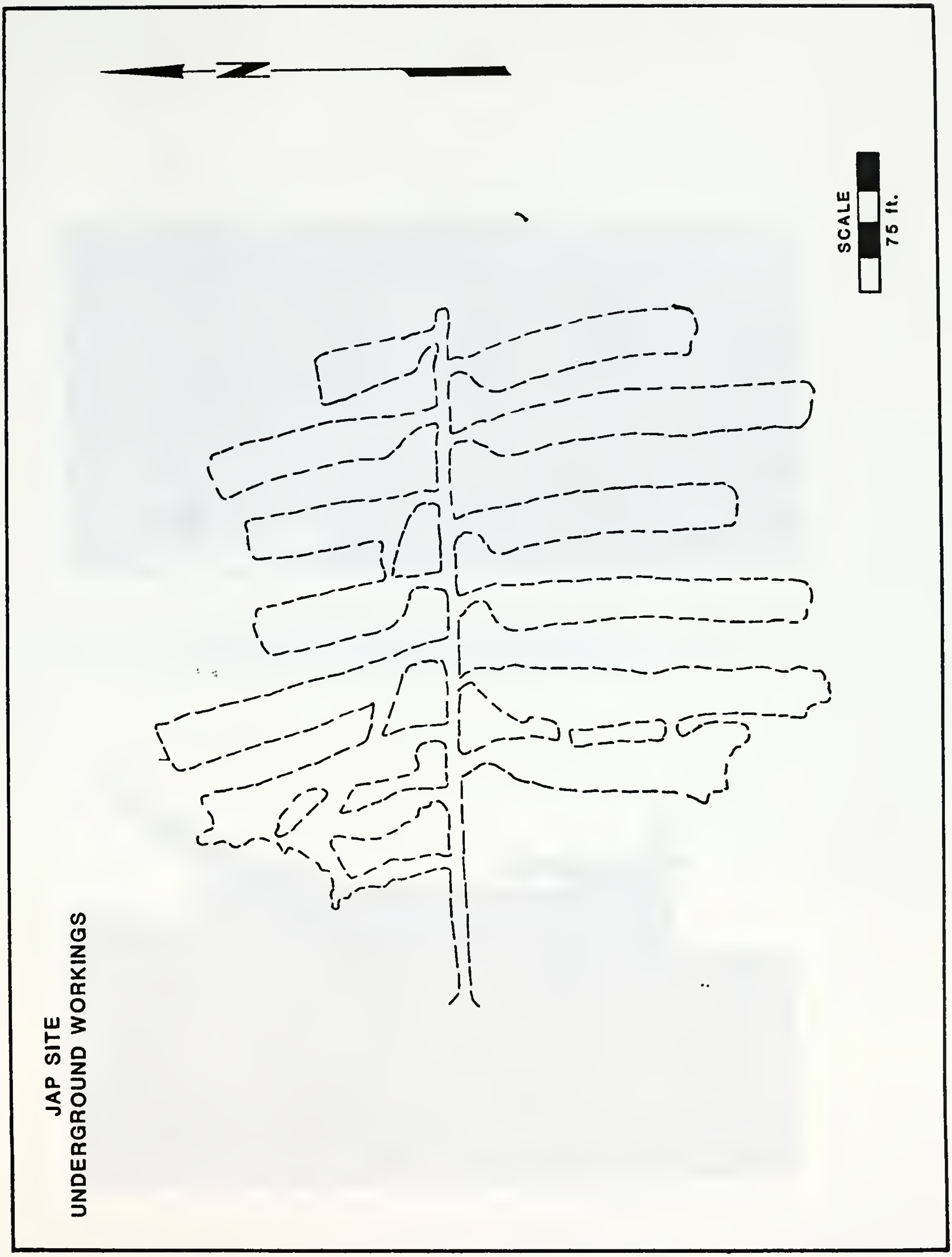
Krause, Henry
1989 Personal communication. December 14, Lavina, Montana.

Payne, Gene F.
1973 Vegetative Rangeland Types in Montana. Montana Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 671. Montana State University, Bozeman.

5.6 Subsurface testing results, methods, stratigraphy, etc.:



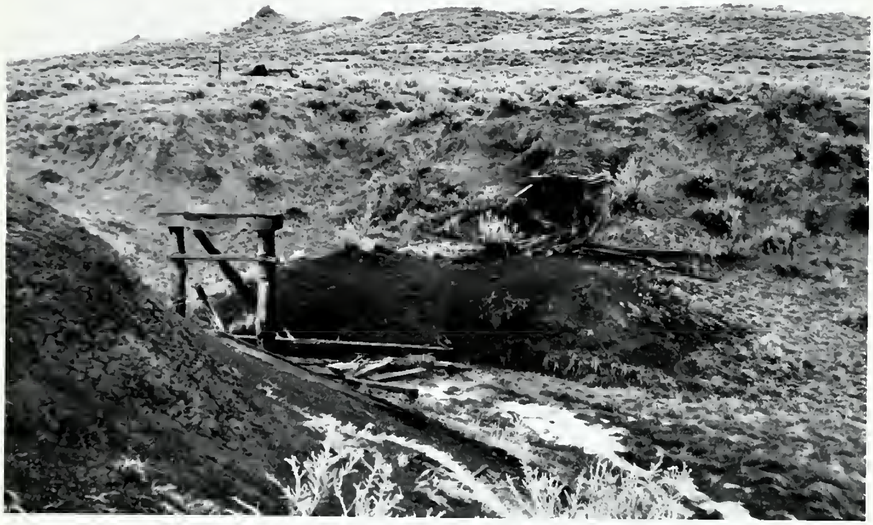
Map of the Jap mine site (24GV140).



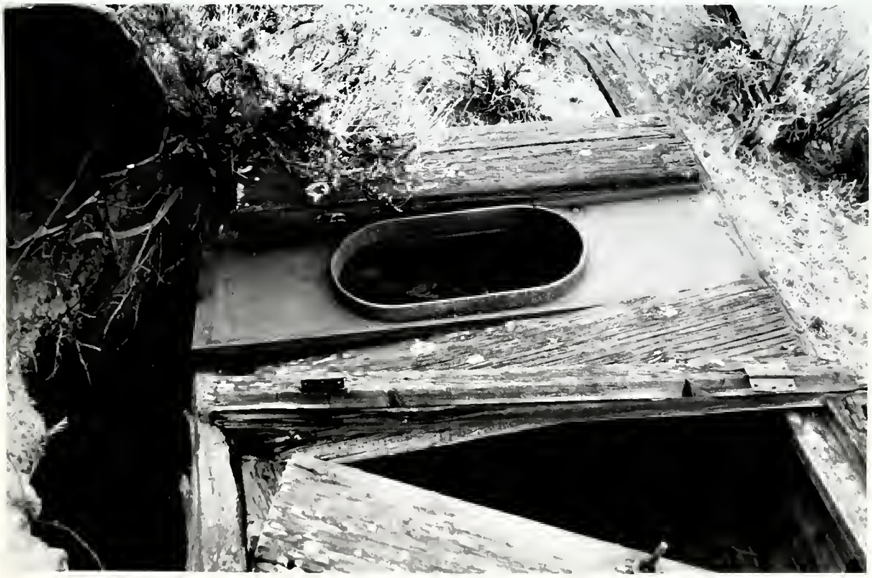
Underground workings at the Jap mine.

General view of the Jap coal mine looking west.

Remains of the cabin at the Jap coal mine (view to west).



Adit entrance and remains of the tipple at the Jap coal mine (view to east).



The base for the air shaft stack at the Jap mine.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 1. Locational Information

1.1 Site Number	**1.2 Site Name**	**1.3 County**
24GV143	Kingman Mine	Golden Valley

1.4 Township/Range: T5N R23E, SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 31

1.5 UTM:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
	12	662050	5110800

1.6 Site type: Historic coal mine

1.7 Recording status: The site has been recorded, mapped and photographed.

1.8 Administrative/surface ownership:
Beverly Ann Lerossignal
4515 South 36th
Lincoln, Nebraska 68516

1.9 Mineral ownership:

1.10 Project name: Montana Department of State Lands Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program

1.11 General narrative description of site:
The site consists of a small abandoned coal mine which probably operated during the 1930s. Only an open adit entry and coal slack piles remain.

1.12 Map reference: USGS Belmont, Mont. - 7.5 minute - 1979

1.13 City/town:
Vicinity of: Broadview, Montana

1.14 Access to site:
Drive 2.2 miles north of Broadview on Montana Highway 3 to the Golden Valley and Yellowstone County lines. Hike west for about 3/4 mile to the site.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 2. Environmental Setting

Site No. 24GV143

2.1 Geographic Setting:

General: The site is located in the open plains of central Montana. Numerous low relief ridges, capped in sandstone, cover the landscape giving it a somewhat rugged appearance.

Local: The site is located at the confluence of two small ephemeral streams. Here they have cut 60 ft to 80 ft deep coulees into the soft shales and clays of the Judith River formation.

2.2 Elevation: 3670 ft (1119 m)

2.3 View/aspect: open

2.4 Major drainage: Cottonwood Creek

2.5 Minor drainage: unnamed tributary of Cottonwood Creek

2.6 Water sources

Names	Distance (in m)	Elev. Change (in m)	Type/ seasonality
1.			
2.			

2.7 Vegetation - regional: Central grassland (Payne 1973)

2.8 Vegetation - local: sagebrush and bunchgrass

2.9 Soils: grey clay loam and brown loam

2.10 Surface visibility/season of survey: good/spring

2.11 Other environmental factors pertaining to site location:

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 3. Site Assessment and Recording Documentation

Site No. 24GV143

3.1 Integrity/Condition of the site:
The site consists of an adit entrance and coal slack pile. There is no evidence that significant structures once existed on the site. The site, therefore, has retained integrity since it remains much as it was when it was in operation.

3.2 Site significance (NRHP): Although the site has integrity, it does not have significant individual economic or historical significance which would make it eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

3.3 Impacts:
The Department of State Lands (DSL) proposes to close the adit entry, neutralize and cover the slack piles.

3.4 Recommendations: The site has been photographed, mapped and recorded. No further work is recommended.

3.5 Site located by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/5/89

3.6 Site recorded by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/5/89

3.7 Revisions by: **Date:**

3.8 Permit No.: N/A

3.9 Publication(s) where site is described: Addendum 1989: to the Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of Selected Abandoned Coal Mines in the Bull Mountain Coal Field, 1984. Prepared for the Montana Department of State Lands by GCM Services, Inc., Butte.

3.10 Artifact repository: none collected

3.11 Fieldnotes/maps/photo repository: GCM Services, Inc., Butte, MT

3.12 Photo and accession numbers:

No.	Description	View
30	overview	W
35	adit entry	S

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 5. Description of Historic Sites

Site No. 24GV143

5.1 Site dimensions, shape, how dimensions determined: 142,000 ft^2 (43,200 m^2) The site measures 120 ft north/south x 360 ft east/west. This is the area in which the coal slack piles and adit are located.

5.2 Features:
Feature 1 - an open adit. No support timbers could be seen.

Feature 2 - the coal slack piles at the site. The largest is 25 ft north/south x 80 ft east/west and is not very thick.

Feature 3 - the remains of a windmill. It is located in the bottom of the drainage near the confluence of two streams. A steel tractor wheel was used for the stock tank. It is currently filled with silt.

[A historic bridge (24GV95) is also located in Sec. 31, T5N R23E near the mine site.]

5.3 Artifacts (observed, collected):
There are a few boards scattered around the site.

5.4 Historical information and evaluation:
The Kingman mine was a small wagon mine which was reported to have been run during the period of World War I by Jim Anderson. During the 1930s Anderson also ran the Anderson mine located a few miles north of the Kingman. The Kingman probably operated, at the most, for just a few years during the autumn and winter in order to supply nearby farms and ranches with coal for domestic use. During the 1930s small amounts of coal were dug by local residents from the surface of the mine site for use during the economically hard times of the Depression (Conover 1989; Krause 1989).

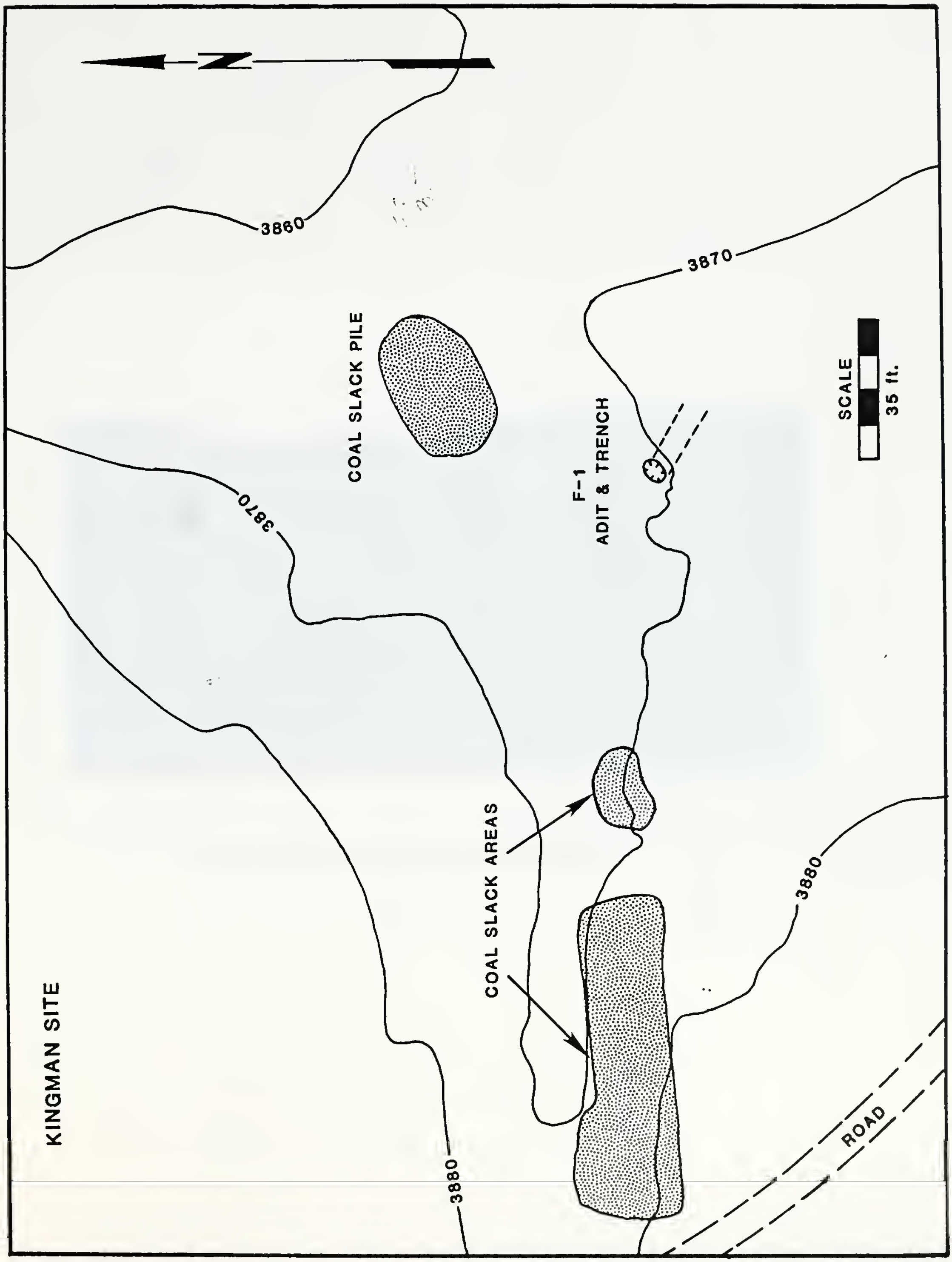
5.5 References:

Conover, Robert
1989 Personal communication. December 13, Broadview, Montana.

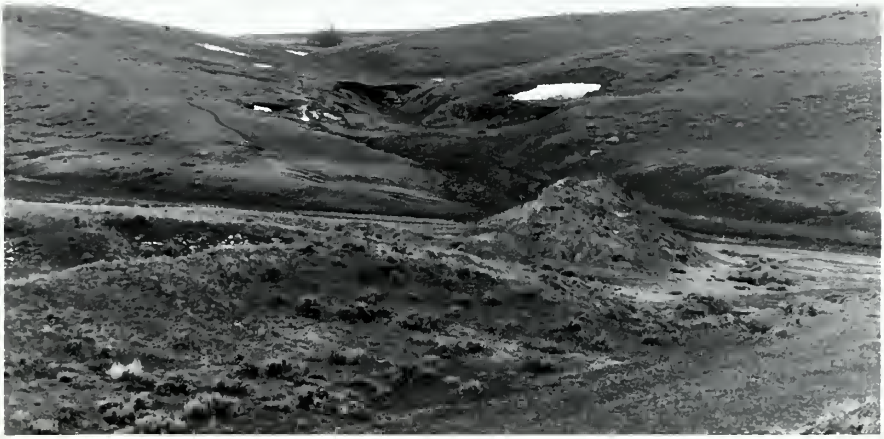
Krause, Henry
1989 Personal communication. December 14, Lavina, Montana.

Payne, Gene F.
1973 Vegetative Rangeland Types in Montana. Montana Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 671. Montana State University, Bozeman.

5.6 Subsurface testing results, methods, stratigraphy, etc.: none



Map of the Kingman mine site (24GV143).



View of the Kingman mine site looking west.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 1. Locational Information

1.1 Site Number: 24WL119

1.2 Site name/field designation Mud Creek Mine

1.3 County: Wheatland

1.4 Township/Range:

T6N R16E, Center SE1/4 of Section 11

1.5 UTM:

Zone	Easting	Northing
12	601750	5126000

1.6 Site type: Historic coal mine andprehistoric camp

1.7 Recording status: The site has been photographed, mapped and recorded.

1.8 Administrative/surface ownership:

Cooney Brothers Ranch
c/o Robert Cooney
Box 266, Harlowton, MT 59036

Phone: (406) 632-4187

1.9 Mineral ownership:

1.10 Project name: Montana Department of State Lands Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program

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1.11 General narrative description of site:
The site consists of a prehistoric component and a historic component located in the drainage bottom of the north fork of Mud Creek. The prehistoric component is a light scatter of flakes and tools on the surface and six hearths exposed in the Mud Creek cut bank. The site extends about 500 m down the creek and 100 m up the creek from the historic coal mine. The historic component is an abandoned coal mine with 10 adit openings, four small coal slack piles, three dug out depressions where buildings probably once stood and a limited number of artifacts.

1.12 Map reference: USGS 7.5 min. Devils Pocket, MT 1986 quadrangle

1.13 City/town:
Vicinity of: Harlowton, MT

1.14 Access to site: Travel one mile east of Harlowton on Highway 12, turn south on a graveled county road and follow it for 13 miles. Turn east onto a two track trail and follow it for 2.3 miles to a junction of two trails. Turn west and go 1/2 mile to the site area.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 2. Environmental Setting

Site No. 24WL119

2.1 Geographic Setting:
General: The site is located in broken terrain made up of numerous ridges and intermittent streams. Isolated stands of pine and Rocky Mountain juniper grow on the ridges. Elsewhere the vegetation is bunch grass and shrubs.

Local: The site is in the drainage bottom of the North Fork of Mud Creek. Locally, the creek has exposed a coal seam in the Eagle formation. Several small seeps and springs issue forth from the exposed coal seam.

2.2 Elevation: 4230 ft (1289 m)

2.3 View/aspect:
View is limited to the creek bottom.

2.4 Major drainage: Musselshell River

2.5 Minor drainage: North Fork of Mud Creek which flows into the Musselshell River 15 km to the east.

2.6 Water sources

Names	Distance (in m)	Elev. Change (in m)	Type/ seasonality
1. Mud Creek	at site	none	spring at site
2.			

2.7 Vegetation - regional: Central grassland (Payne 1973)

2.8 Vegetation - local:
On-site vegetation consists of bunch grasses, sagebrush, cottonwood trees, chokecherry, and wild rose.

2.9 Soils: brown loam

2.10 Surface visibility/season of survey: good/summer

2.11 Other environmental factors pertaining to site location:

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 3. Site Assessment and Recording Documentation

Site No. 24WL119

3.1 Integrity/Condition of site:
The site consists of adit entrances and coal slack piles. There is no evidence that significant structures once existed on the site. The site, therefore, has retained integrity since it remains much as it was when it was in operation.

3.2 Site significance (NRHP):
Although the site has integrity, it does not have significant individual economic or historical significance which would make it eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

3.3 Impacts:
The Montana Department of State Lands plans to backfill adits 1 to 10 with material adjacent to each opening, remove and dispose of all on-site debris, neutralize the coal slack piles and revegetate all disturbed areas.

3.4 Recommendations:
The prehistoric portion of the site should be avoided during reclamation of the abandoned coal mine. This can be done by limiting reclamation activities to the south side of the creek. The contractor should have a map that clearly shows the location of the prehistoric site. Access across the prehistoric portion of the site should be limited to a corridor of low potential for prehistoric remains (see attached site map). As an added precaution, this corridor should be staked.

3.5 Site located by: Gene Munson **Date:** 8/3/89

3.6 Site recorded by: Gene Munson **Date:** 8/3/89

3.7 Revisions by: **Date:**

3.8 Permit No. NA

3.9 Publication(s) where site is described: Addendum 1989: to the Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of Selected Abandoned Coal Mines in the Bull Mountain Coal Field, 1984. Prepared for the Montana Department of State Lands by GCM Services, Inc., Butte.

3.10 Artifact repository: None collected.

3.11 Fieldnotes/maps/photo repository:
GCM Services, Inc.
P. O. Box 3047
Butte, MT 59702

Site No.: 24WL119

3.12 Photo and accession numbers:

No.	Description	View
19	overview	SE
20	overview	S
21	overview	S
22	overview	SW
23	dugout	NE
24	coal spoil/adit #1	SW
25	coal spoil/adit #1	S
26	overview	
27	coal size grading screen	
28	overview	E

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 4. Description of Prehistoric Sites

Site No. 24WL119

4.1 Site dimensions, shape, how dimensions determined: 65,600 ft^2 (20,000 m^2)
The prehistoric cultural deposit measures 500 m E/W x 90 m N/W. The shape appears to be determined by the shape of the terrace adjacent to the creek so it is quite irregular. The prehistoric site area was determined by the extent of the lithics on the surface and hearths eroding out of the stream bank.

4.2 Features:
Six hearths were found eroding out of the creek bank. Three appear to be unprepared and three have pits with stones in them. The depths of the hearths varies from 20 cm to almost 1 m.

4.3 Artifacts (observed, collected):
A light scatter of flakes is located across the site area. Lithic material types include obsidian, Tongue River silicified siltstone, basalt, porcellanite, quartzite, and cherts. One midsection of a small projectile point and one modified flake are the only tools found.

4.4 Cultural/temporal affiliation. Justify.
No artifacts were located to provide direct evidence of cultural/temporal affiliation. The midsection of a small point found on the site suggests association with Late Prehistoric. The varying depths of the hearths suggests use of the site through time. The deeper hearths imply the site was first occupied several thousand years ago.

4.5 Functional inference. Justify.
The hearths suggest the site was used for habitation. The abundant fresh water from the springs and wood from the trees growing along the creek makes it an ideal place to camp.

4.6 Subsurface testing results, methods, stratigraphy, etc.
None. There was sufficient subsurfaced exposure in the cutbank to establish boundaries and significance potential of the site without testing.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 5. Description of Historic Sites

Site No. 24WL119

5.1 Site dimensions, shape, how dimensions determined: 48,000 ft^2 (14,650 m^2) The historic portion of the site measures 1200 ft E/W x 400 ft N/S. This is the area in which the adit openings, coal slack piles and remaining surface features of the mine are located.

5.2 Features:

Features consist of 10 adit openings located on a north facing outcrop, four small coal slack piles, and three depressions in the terrace bank that may have been where some type of structures were located (see site map). The depressions are 3 ft deep.

5.3 Artifacts (observed, collected):

Very few artifacts are located at the site. They consist of car and wagon parts, a screen for size grading the coal, corrugated tin that probably was part of a coal loadout chute, stove parts, flat glass, crockery, and wire nails.

5.4 Historical information and evaluation:

The Mud Creek mine operated during the Depression of the 1930s. It was reported to have been run by Roy Lilly until it closed shortly after the United States entered World War II. The operation was a typical small wagon mine operated by two or three men during autumn and winter. No mechanical equipment was used except for a hoist to haul the coal cars from the adits. Most of the coal was sold in Harlowton for about $2 a ton even though the area's coal seams were relatively thin and the coal was generally dirty and low-grade (Stone 1909; Blumer 1989; Cooney 1989).

5.5 References: (see Section 3.9)

Blumer, Ernie
1989 Personal communication, December 13, Harlowton, Montana.

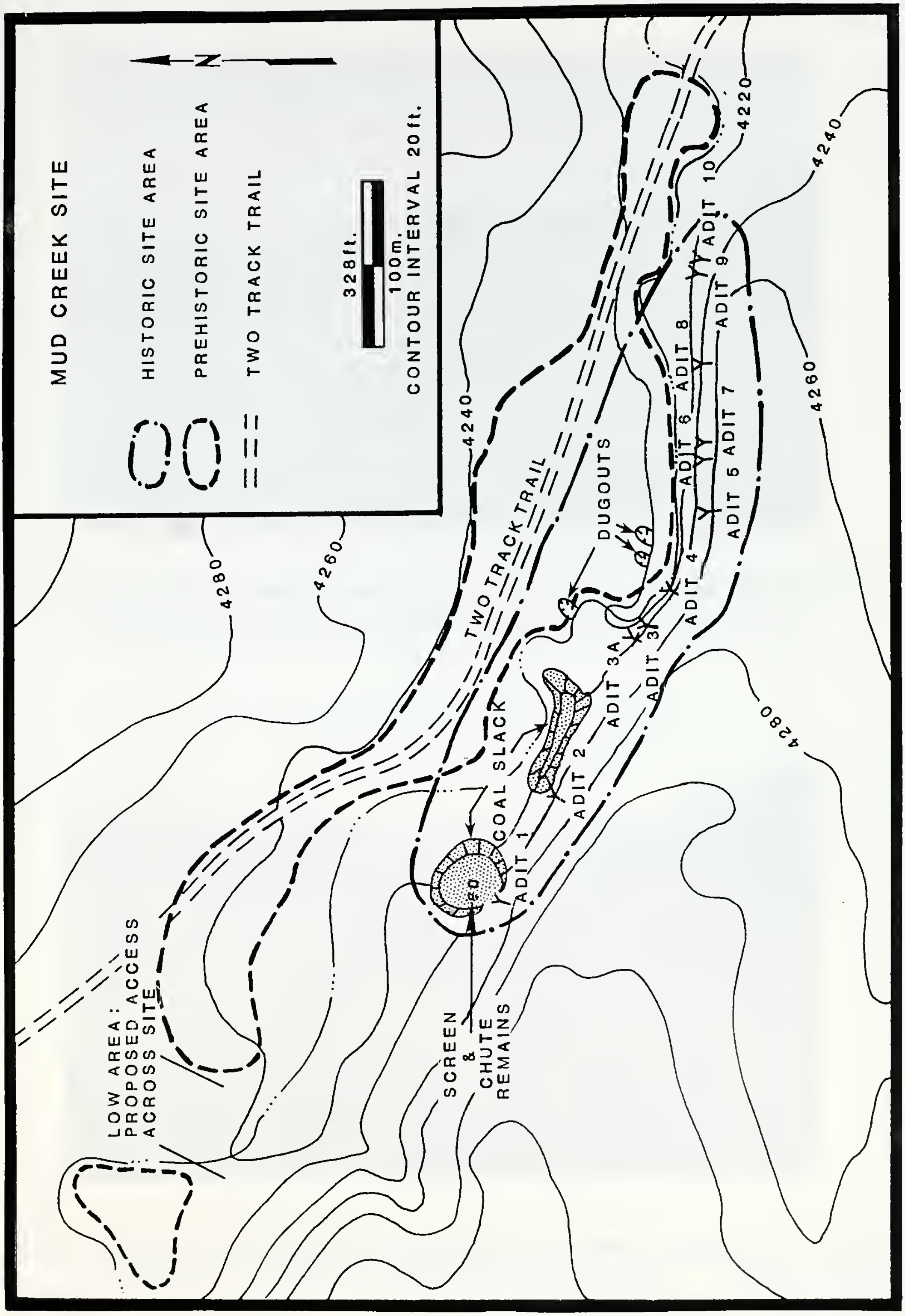
Cooney, Robert
1989 Personal communication, December 12, Harlowton, Montana.

Payne, Gene F.
1973 Vegetative Rangeland Types in Montana. Montana Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 671 Montana State University, Bozeman.

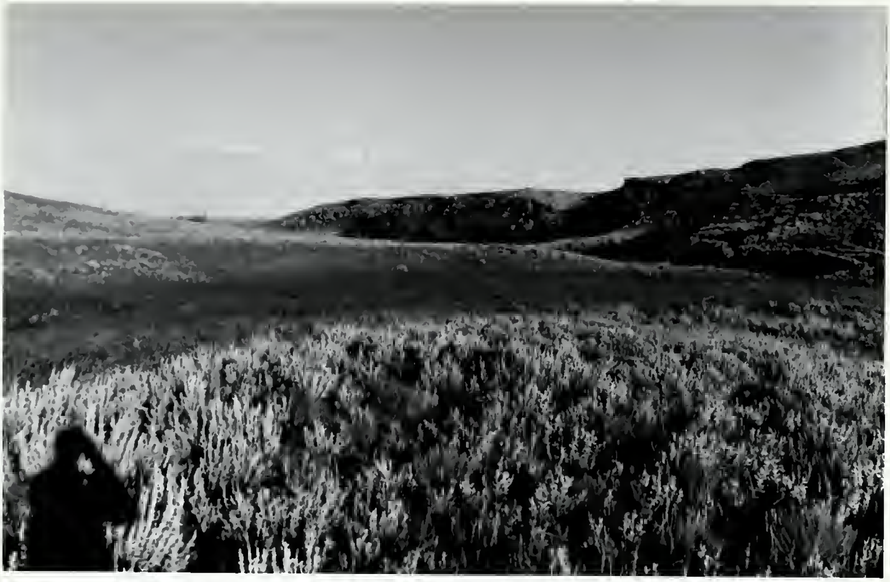
Stone, R. W.
1909 Coal Near the Crazy Mountains, Montana. United States Geological Survey Bulletin 341, Contributions to Economic Geology 1907. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

5.6 Subsurface testing results, methods, stratigraphy, etc.

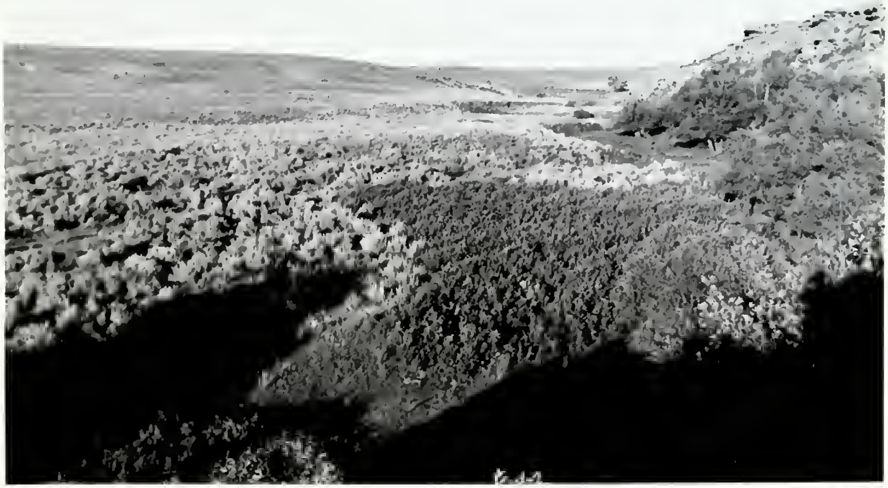
none



Map of the Mud Creek mine site (24WL119).

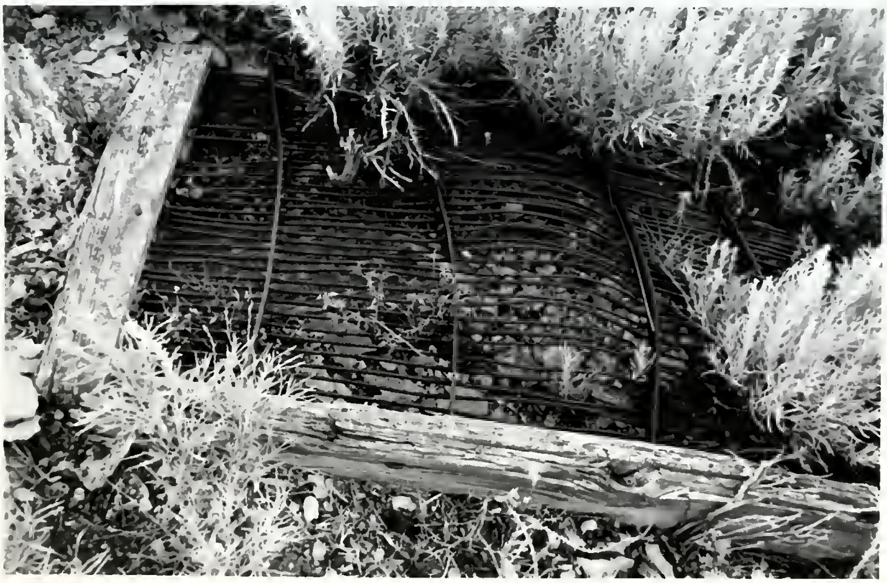


The Mud Creek mine and prehistoric site (view to southeast). The prehistoric component is on the bench area center of photograph while the coal mine adits are upper right.



View of the Mud Creek site looking down Mud Creek (to the southeast) showing prehistoric component on the left and mines on the right.

The coal spoils and adits of the Mud Creek mine (view to southwest).



Home-made coal screen at the Mud Creek mine.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 1. Locational Information

1.1 Site Number 24ML400	**1.2 Site Name** Murphy and Ray Mine	**1.3 County** Musselshell

1.4 Township/Range: T8N R27E, S1/2 Section 19

1.5 UTM: Zone	**Easting**	**Northing**
12	700100	5144600

1.6 Site type: Historic coal mine

1.7 Recording status: The site has been recorded mapped and photographed.

1.8 Administrative/surface ownership: Niels Bruun-Andersen
P.O. Box 125
Wise River, Montana 59672

1.9 Mineral ownership:

1.10 Project name: Montana Department of State Lands Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program

1.11 General narrative description of site:
The site appears to have been a small coal prospect which did not develop into a producing mine. The prospect may have been sunk during the 1920s.

1.12 Map reference: USGS Gage, Montana - 7.5 minute - 1979

1.13 City/town:
Vicinity of: Roundup, Montana

1.14 Access to site: Take U.S. Highway 12 east from Roundup for 8 miles. At Gage turn south onto a county road and travel 2 1/2 miles to an intersection. Turn southeast and travel for about 3/4 miles and then take the ranch road south for a quarter mile to the site.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 2. Environmental Setting

Site No. 24ML400

2.1 Geographic Setting: The site is located on the north side of the Bull Mountains along the Musselshell River. On both sides of the river the surface rises to steep bluffs. South of the river the terrain consists of numerous steep hills dissected by many creek valleys and coulees with steep terraced walls with large areas of sandstone outcrops and cliffs.

2.2 Elevation: 3340 ft (1018 m)

2.3 View/aspect: open

2.4 Major drainage: Musselshell River

2.5 Minor drainage: East Parrot Creek

2.6 Water sources

Names	Distance (in m)	Elev. Change (in m)	Type/ seasonality
1.			
2.			

2.7 Vegetation - regional: Eastern Montana Ponderosa pine forest (Payne 1973)

2.8 Vegetation - local: range grasses, brush

2.9 Soils:

2.10 Surface visibility/season of survey: good/spring

2.11 Other environmental factors pertaining to site location:

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 3. Site Assessment and Recording Documentation

Site No. 24ML400

3.1 Integrity/Condition of site: The site consists of an adit entrance and coal slack pile. There is the remains of a collapsed wood frame shack. The site has retained integrity of setting and location.

3.2 Site significance (NRHP): Although the site has integrity, it does not have significant individual economic or historical significance which would make it eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

3.3 Impacts: The Department of State Lands plans to remove debris from the site, close all mine openings and reclaim disturbed areas.

3.4 Recommendations: The site has been recorded, mapped and photographed and no further work is recommended

3.5 Site located by: Connie Moore	**Date:** 5/27/89
3.6 Site recorded by: Connie Moore	**Date:** 5/27/89
3.7 Revisions by:	**Date:**

3.8 Permit No.: N/A

3.9 Publication(s) where site is described: Addendum 1989: to the Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of Selected Abandoned Coal Mines in the Bull Mountain Coal Field, 1984. Prepared for the Montana Department of State Lands by GCM Services, Inc., Butte.

3.10 Artifact repository: none collected

3.11 Fieldnotes/maps/photo repository: GCM Services, Inc., Butte, MT

3.12 Photo and accession numbers:

No.	Description	View

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 5. Description of Historic Sites

Site No. 24ML400

5.1 Site dimensions, shape, how dimensions determined: 105,000 ft^2 (32,000 m^2) - extent of features marks boundaries.

5.2 Features:

Feature 1 - a collapsed cabin

Feature 2 - an open adit

Feature 3 - a depression

Feature 4 - an old mine road

Feature 5 - a trench

Feature 6 - a depression

5.3 Artifacts (observed, collected):
none

5.4 Historical information and evaluation:
No coal had been mined in this area prior to the 1917 United States Geological Survey report on the Bull Mountain coal field (Woolsey et al. 1917) although local ranchers may have taken a few tons from surface prospects for domestic use. A shaft had been sunk in the northeast corner of Section 30 to determine if there was a coal bed of commercial value. The test revealed that the Roundup bed, which was the only bed of significance under the township, was too thin for commercial development.

The Murphy and Ray prospect was probably opened by the Northern Pacific Railroad which acquired Section 19 in 1897 (Patent #2). It is unlikely the railroad would have continued further development of the prospect since most of the coal seams in this area were too thin and the coal was too poor quality for commercial use. It was reported that small amounts of coal were mined from the site by local residents in the 1930s for use as a domestic fuel. The property was purchased from the railroad in 1950 by Cleede Ray, at which point all mining had long since ceased (Woolsey et al. 1917; Musselshell County Records; Ruth Dawson 1990).

5.5 References:

Dawson, Ruth
1990 Personal communication, January 10, Roundup, Montana.

Musselshell County Records
n.d. Clerk and Recorders Office, Roundup, Montana.

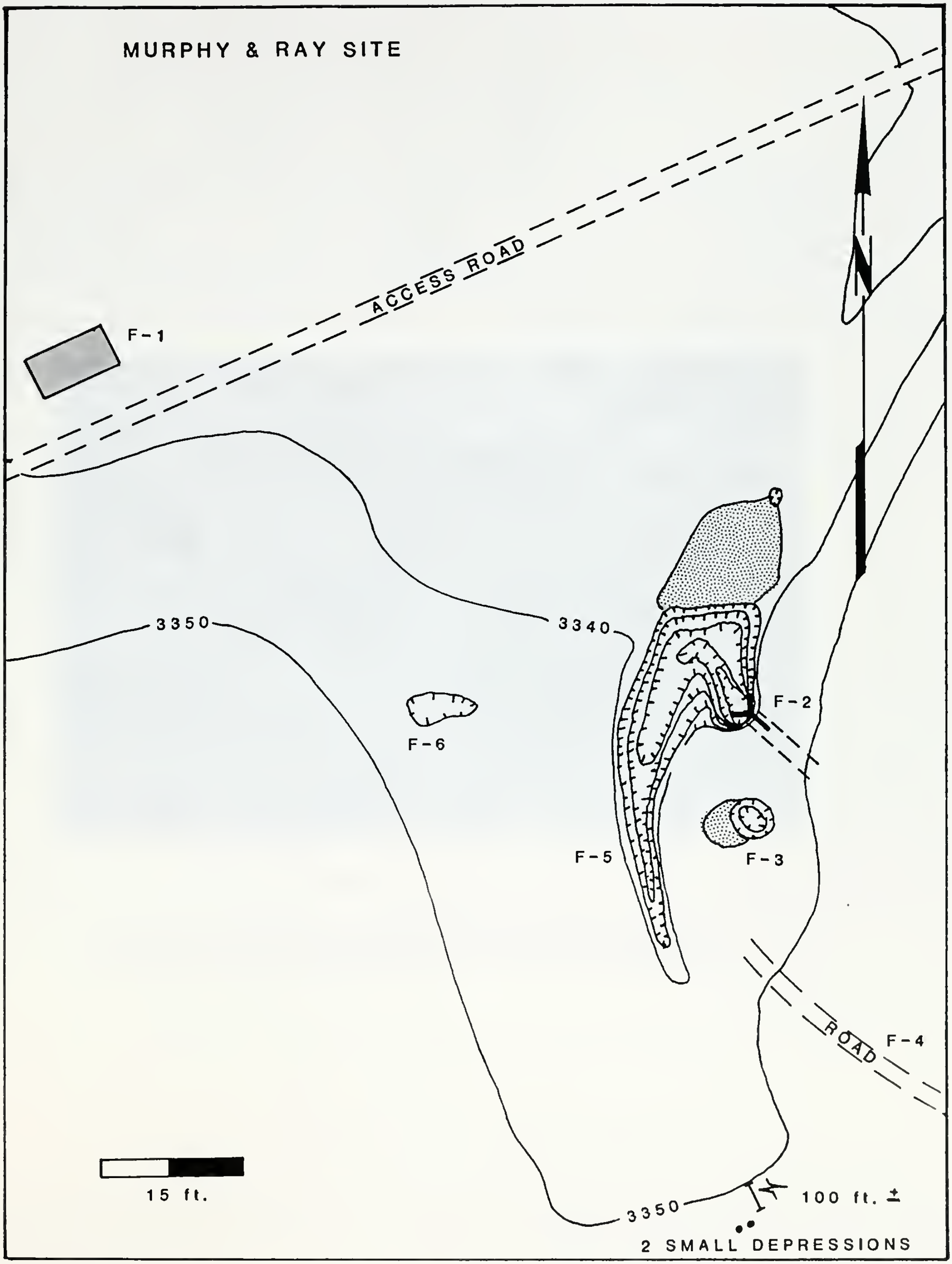
Payne, Gene F.
1973 Vegetative Rangeland Types in Montana. Montana Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 671. Montana State University, Bozeman.

Travis, Raymond G. and Louis A. Turnbull
1950 Cola-Mining Methods and Practices and Electric Power Requirements in the Bull Mountain Coal field, Montana. United State Bureau of Mines Report of Investigations 4684. U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

Woolsey, L. H.
1909 The Bull Mountain Coal Field, Montana. United States Geological Survey Bulletin 341, Contributions to Economic Geology 1907. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Woolsey, L. H., R. W. Richards and C. T. Lupton
1912 The Bull Mountain Coal field, Musselshell and Yellowstone Counties, Montana. United State Geological Survey Bulletin 647. U. S. Government Printing Office,Washington, D.C.

5.6 Subsurface testing results, methods, stratigraphy, etc.: none



Map of the Murphy and Ray coal mine (24ML400).

Adit entrance at the Murphy and Ray coal mine (view to southeast).

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 1. Locational Information

1.1 Site Number 24GV141	**1.2 Site Name** Sholz Mine	**1.3 County** Golden Valley

1.4 Township/Range: T5N R22E, W1/2 NW1/4 of Section 14

1.5 UTM:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
	12	659350	5116800

1.6 Site type: Historic coal mine

1.7 Recording status: The site has been recorded, mapped and photographed.

1.8 Administrative/surface ownership:
J. C. Jensen, Inc.
c/o J. Carl Jensen
176 Jensen Road
Lavina, MT 59043
(406) 636-2156

1.9 Mineral ownership:

1.10 Project name: Montana Department of State Lands Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program

1.11 General narrative description of site:
The site consists of the ruins of a small coal mine which operated from 1917 to 1923. The features include: collapsed adit entries, coal slack piles, a collapsed root cellar, foundations for buildings and a small quantity of cultural debris.

1.12 Map reference: USGS Belmont, Mont. - 7.5 minute - 1979

1.13 City/town:
Vicinity of: Broadview, Montana

1.14 Access to site:
Drive north from Broadview on Highway 3 for 7 miles. Turn west onto a graveled road for 3/4 mile then turn south onto a two track trail. Follow this trail for one mile. The site is about 1/2 mile to the east.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 2. Environmental Setting

Site No. 24GV141

2.1 Geographic Setting:
General: The site is located in the open plains of central Montana. Numerous low relief ridges, capped in sandstone, cover the landscape giving it a somewhat rugged appearance.

Local: The site is in the bottom of a coulee. It covers both the east and west terrace banks of the ephemeral stream that drains the coulee.

2.2 Elevation: 3640 ft (1109 m)

2.3 View/aspect: open

2.4 Major drainage: Painted Robe Creek

2.5 Minor drainage: unnamed tributary of Painted Robe Creek

2.6 Water sources

Names	Distance (in m)	Elev. Change (in m)	Type/ seasonality
1.			
2.			

2.7 Vegetation - regional: Central grassland (Payne 1973)

2.8 Vegetation - local: sagebrush and short bunchgrasses

2.9 Soils: gray clay loam and brown loam

2.10 Surface visibility/season of survey: good/spring

2.11 Other environmental factors pertaining to site location:
A large railroad grade fill borders the site on the north side.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 3. Site Assessment and Recording Documentation

Site No. 24GV141

3.1 Integrity/Condition of site:
The site retains integrity of setting as the basic plan of this small commercial mine can be discerned. However, most of the buildings and other materials have been salvaged, thus diminishing the feeling of the site.

3.2 Site significance (NRHP):
The surface workings of the mine have collapsed. There are no buildings still standing although there are indications that at least five buildings were once at the mine. Only remnants remain of a dugout and a loadout. The rest of the site consists of subsidence and adit openings. The site, although a commercial operation, was of minor local economic importance and is of no historic significance. It is not recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

3.3 Impacts:
The Department of State Lands proposes to back fill the collapsed root cellar and subsidence holes, and cover disturbed areas with soil the coal slack piles.

3.4 Recommendations: The site has been recorded, mapped and photographed and no further work is recommended.

3.5 Site located by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/5/89

3.6 Site recorded by: Gene Munson **Date:** 4/5/89

3.7 Revisions by: **Date:**

3.8 Permit No.: N/A

3.9 Publication(s) where site is described: Addendum 1989: to the Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of Selected Abandoned Coal Mines in the Bull Mountain Coal Field, 1984. Prepared for the Montana Department of State Lands by GCM Services, Inc., Butte.

3.10 Artifact repository: none collected
3.11 Fieldnotes/maps/photo repository: GCM Services, Inc., Butte, MT

3.12 Photo and accession numbers

No.	Description	View
16	load out chute	W
17	overview	E
18	Feature 5	W
19	chimney	
20	Feature 7 - root cellar	NW
21	overview	N
22	overview of Features 10 and 11	N

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 5. Description of Historic Sites

Site No. 24GV141

5.1 Site dimensions, shape, how dimensions determined: 480,000 ft^2 (146,000 m^2) The site measures 1000 ft north/south x 480 ft east/west. This is the area in which the features are located at the site.

5.2 Features:

Feature 1 - a collapsed adit on the southeast side of the site.

Feature 2 - a collapsed adit on the northeast corner of the site.

Feature 3 - an adit on the northeast corner of the site.

Feature 4 - a loadout facility located in front of the Feature 2 adit. All that remains of the facility are three upright poles tied together by horizontally disposed timbers. Pieces of sheet metal are lying on the ground at the base of posts. They were probably the lining of a coal chute. Another pole is located about 100 ft west of the loadout and may have been part of it.

Feature 5 - consists of the site's coal slack dumps. They are all on the east side of the drainage. The largest pile is in front of adit Features 2 and 3. It measures 220 ft north/south x 70 ft east/west.

Feature 6 - a 14 ft northeast/southwest x 10 ft northwest x southeast depression in the ground where a building probably once stood.

Feature 7 - a collapsed root cellar in the terrace bank on the west side of the drainage.

Feature 8 - a 16 ft north/south x 3 ft east/west leveled area with a scattered sandstone foundation for a building. It is on the stream terrace edge adjacent to the root cellar (Feature 7). Adjacent to the feature is a 3.5 ft concrete chimney. The chimney was made by placing 6-inch stove pipe through the center of what appears to be carbide cans.

Feature 9 - a 16 ft north/south x 16 ft east/west leveled area. There are some scattered sandstone glass in the vicinity of the feature that probably was part of the building's foundation. The feature is located on the west side of the drainage.

Feature 10 - a 20 ft north/south x 16 ft east/west dry wall sandstone foundation. Only one level is exposed on the surface. On the east side of the foundation are the remains of what appears to be a walk made of large tabular sandstone. This "walk" extends about 15 ft east of the foundation to what appears to be the remains of a building foundation or perhaps the border of a fence. This foundation is in the shape of a backwards "L" and is made of sandstone.

Feature 11 - a 20 ft north/south x 16 ft east/west stone foundation similar to that of Feature 10. There is only one course of sandstone.

5.3 Artifacts (observed, collected):

In the area of Features 10 and 11 are fragments of tea cups, heavy white ware cups, plates, small fragments of colored glass from bowls and/or bottles. Scattered around the building locations were a steel frying pan, a small chunk of cast iron from a stove and a chimney piece.

5.4 Historical information and evaluation:

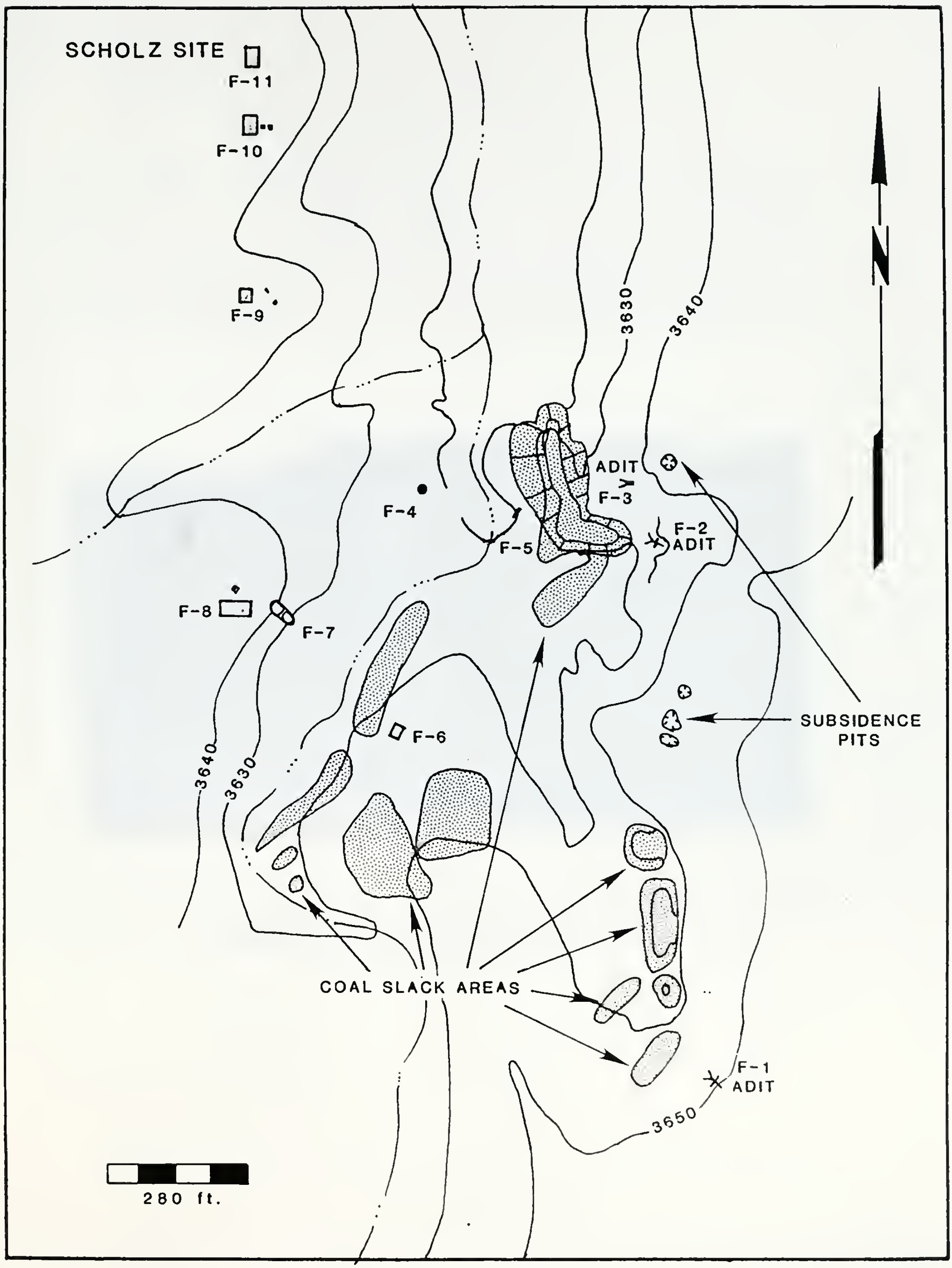
The Sholz mine was operated by Charley Sholz from 1917 to 1923. It was a small commercial mine which sold coal at $1.50 to $2 a ton to communities, farms and ranches throughout the area. Although the mine was productive and had not begun to exhaust the accessible coal, it had to shut down prematurely because of problems with flooding (Krause 1989).

5.5 References:

Krause, Henry
1989 Personal communication. December 14, Lavina, Montana.

Payne, Gene F.
1973 Vegetative Rangeland Types in Montana. Montana Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 671. Montana State University, Bozeman.

5.6 Subsurface testing results, methods, stratigraphy, etc.: none



Map of the Sholz coal mine site (24GV141).

Overview of the Sholz mine looking east.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 1. Locational Information

1.1 Site Number 24ML399	**1.2 Site Name** Signal Mountain mine	**1.3 County** Musselshell

1.4 Township/Range: T6N R26E, NW1/4 SW1/4 SE1/4 Section 9

1.5 UTM:

Zone	Easting	Northing
12	694520	5128100

1.6 Site type: Historic coal mine and homestead

1.7 Recording status: The site has been recorded, mapped and photographed.

1.8 Administrative/surface ownership: Charles Mitchell, Roundup
3526 U.S. Hwy 87 South
Montana 59072

1.9 Mineral ownership:

1.10 Project name: Montana Department of State Lands Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program

1.11 General narrative description of site: The site consists of an abandoned coal mine prospect which was probably sunk in the 1920s or 1930s. The prospect consists of two adits and a shaft. More recent farm buildings are also at the site but were not part of the mine operation.

1.12 Map reference: USGS Signal Mountain, Montana - 7.5 minute - 1980

1.13 City/town:
Vicinity of: Roundup, Montana

1.14 Access to site: Take U.S. Highway 87 south from Roundup for about 15 miles to the Signal Mountain road which heads east. The site is located on the east side of the highway and on the north side of the Signal Mountain road a couple hundred feet from the highway.

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 2. Environmental Setting

Site No. 24ML399

2.1 Geographic Setting:

General: The site is located in the Bull Mountains which are characterized by rugged, forested, broken terrain with numerous drainages and sandstone outcrops.

Local: The site is in a narrow valley at the headwaters of Halfbreek Creek.

2.2 Elevation: 3884 ft (1184 m)

2.3 View/aspect: restricted

2.4 Major drainage: Musselshell River

2.5 Minor drainage: Halfbreed Creek

2.6 Water sources

Names	Distance (in m)	Elev. Change (in m)	Type/ seasonality
1.			
2.			

2.7 Vegetation - regional: Eastern Montana Ponderosa pine forest (payne 1973)

2.8 Vegetation - local: range grasses, lodgepole pine trees

2.9 Soils:

2.10 Surface visibility/season of survey: good/spring

2.11 Other environmental factors pertaining to site location:

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 3. Site Assessment and Recording Documentation

Site No. 24ML399

3.1 Integrity/Condition of site: Little remains of the small coal mining prospect operation other than two adit openings and a shaft. The cabin and a number of farm buildings are standing. The integrity of the small ranching/farming operation is good.

3.2 Site significance (NRHP): The mining operation at the site was of little historic or economic significance. The surface structures have good to fair integrity but are of an indeterminite age and origin and are not of any important historical significance. The site is not recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

3.3 Impacts: The Department of State Lands plans to backfill the mine openings and reclaim disturbed areas.

3.4 Recommendations:
The site has been recorded, mapped and photographed and no further work is recommended.

3.5 Site located by: Connie Moore **Date:** 5/23/89

3.6 Site recorded by: Connie Moore **Date:** 5/23/89

3.7 Revisions by: **Date:**

3.8 Permit No.: N/A

3.9 Publication(s) where site is described: Addendum 1989: to the Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of Selected Abandoned Coal Mines in the Bull Mountain Coal Field, 1984. Prepared for the Montana Department of State Lands by GCM Services, Inc., Butte.

3.10 Artifact repository: none collected

3.11 Fieldnotes/maps/photo repository: GCM Services, Inc., Butte, MT

3.12 Photo and accession numbers:

No.	Description	View
7	structure #1	NW
8	"	S
9	log cabin, feature #2	N
10	"	SW
11	"	NW
12	log barn, feature 3	N
13	structure, feature 4	NE
14	adit #2, feature 5	N

15	shaft, feature 6	N
16	"	"
17	adit #1, feature 7	NE
18	structure, feature 2	NW
19	site area	N
20	concrete foundation, feature 8	W

MONTANA CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

Form No. 5. Description of Historic Sites

Site No. 24ML399

5.1 Site dimensions, shape, how dimensions determined: 24,000 ft^2 (7315 m^2)

5.2 Features:

Feature 1 - a wood frame, vertical board siding shed with a corrugated tin roof. There is an enclosed wire fence on the north side which indicates the shed was used for a chicken coop.

Feature 2 - a log cabin on a sandstone foundation. The log corners are 1/2 dovetail notched. The gable roof is tin-covered with horizontal boards used at the gable ends.

Feature 3 - a log barn which has been built into the hillside. The logs have square notching and there is no foundation. The gable roof is covered with corrugated tin.

Feature 4 - a partially collapsed shed built into the hillside. The wood frame structure has a gable roof covered with corrugated tin roofing.

Feature 5 - an adit opening

Feature 6 - a shaft

Feature 7 - an adit opening

Feature 8 - a concrete foundation with a pipe in the middle of it. Vertical logs are located at the four corners and there are remnants of a sawed board floor.

5.3 Artifacts (observed, collected): glass and metal debris

5.4 Historical information and evaluation:

This small coal prospect operation and homestead are located on a section of land patented to the Northern Pacific Railroad (#136) on June 22, 1907 (BLM patent records).

The 1907 United States Geological Survey study of the Bull Mountain coal field (Woolsey 1909) described the coal in this area as part of the Mammoth bed which was the most important coal seam in the area. The bed measured from eight to 15 feet thick with a fuel value of over 10,000 B.t.u. The coal was described as soft, burned with a yellowish flame and gave off a pungent odor of sulphur. The coal slacked [or crumbled] easily when exposed to the air which limited its use for industrial purposes, although the railroads in later years were able to use the coal from the Bull Mountain field in large amounts. At this point, no mines or prospect operations had been opened in the township.

In 1917 the USGS report by Woolsey, Richards and Lupton reported that a prospect operation had been opened in the SW 1/4 of Section 9 on the Dougerty bed, located about 200 feet below the Mammoth bed. The location of this prospect is shown by Woolsey, Richards and Lupton to be about 1000 ft northwest of the Signal Mountain site. No active mining had occurred in the township at this point other than the prospect in Section 9 and another prospect in Section 36. The railroad may have opened the prospect at the Signal Mountain site about this same time but probably abandoned it since the coal in this vicinity is not well suited for use in locomotives (Woolsey et al. 1917).

The homestead apparently was established on the site after the coal prospect had been sunk and abandoned. Dominic Vescovi leased the property from the railroad and established the homestead during the late 1920s and 1930s. The structures on the site were said to have dated from the late 1930s and early 1940s. None of the structures appear to have been connected with the coal prospect operation. Vescovi was reported to have mined a few tons of coal from the prospect during the 1930s for use at the homestead. At the most, no more than a total of 50 to 100 tons of coal were taken from the prospect. The property was eventually purchased from the railroad by E. H. Watson in October of 1945 (Mitchell 1990; Richard 1990; Musselshell County Records).

5.5 References:

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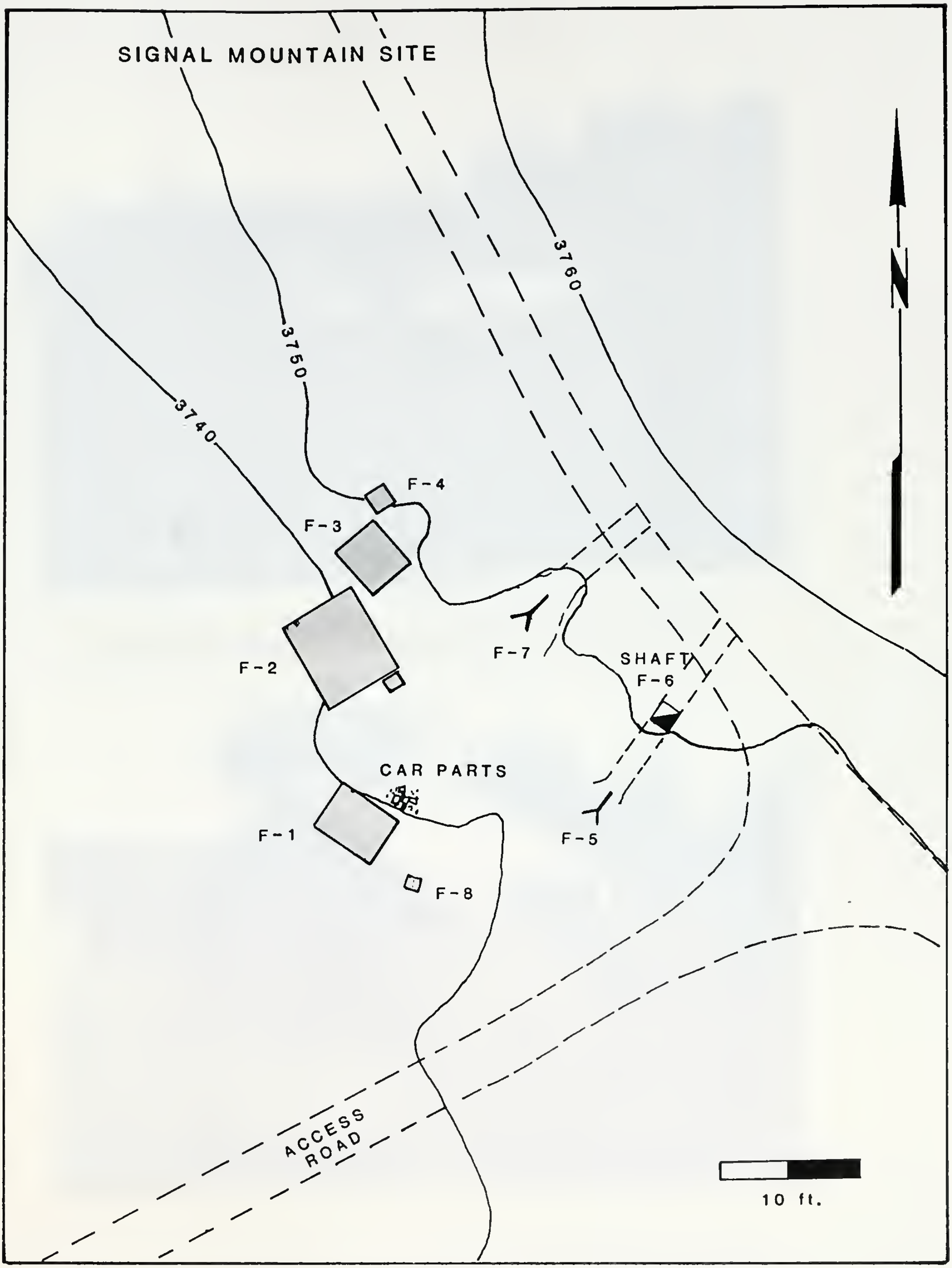
1950 Coal-Mining Methods and Practices and Electric Power Requirements in the Bull Mountain Coal field, Montana. United State Bureau of Mines Report of Investigations 4684. U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

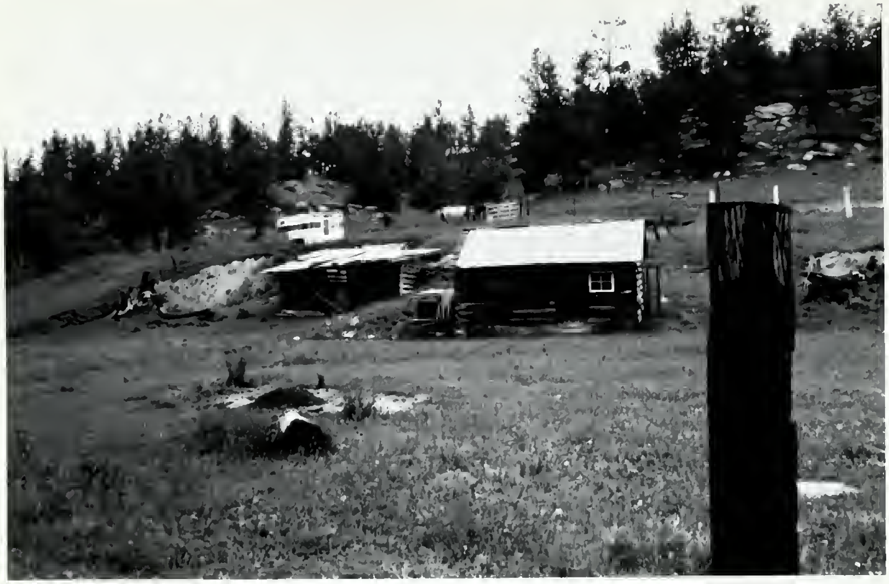
Woolsey, L. H.
1909 The Bull Mountain Coal Field, Montana. United States Geological Survey Bulletin 341, Contributions to Economic Geology 1907. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Woolsey, L. H., R. W. Richards and C. T. Lupton
1917 The Bull Mountain Coal field, Musselshell and Yellowstone Counties, Montana. United State Geological Survey Bulletin 647. U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

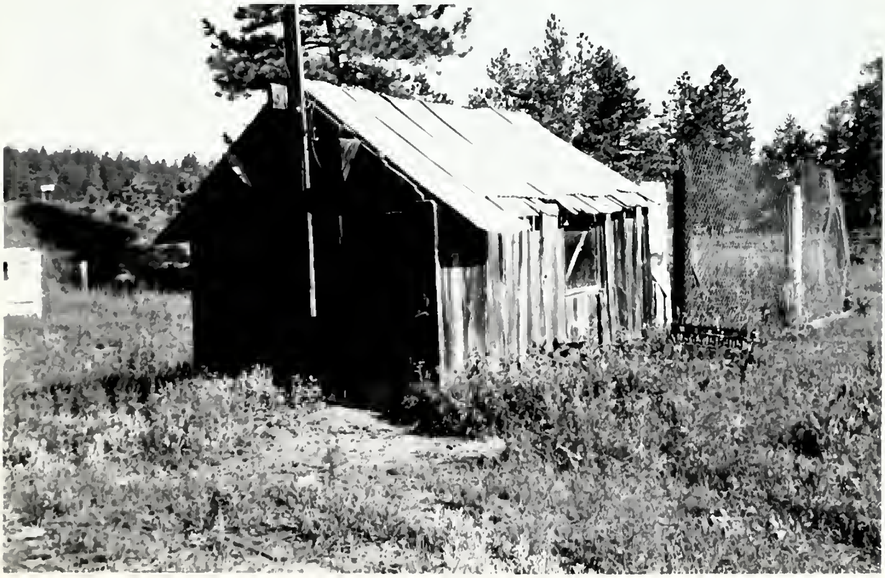
5.6 Subsurface testing results, methods, stratigraphy, etc.: none



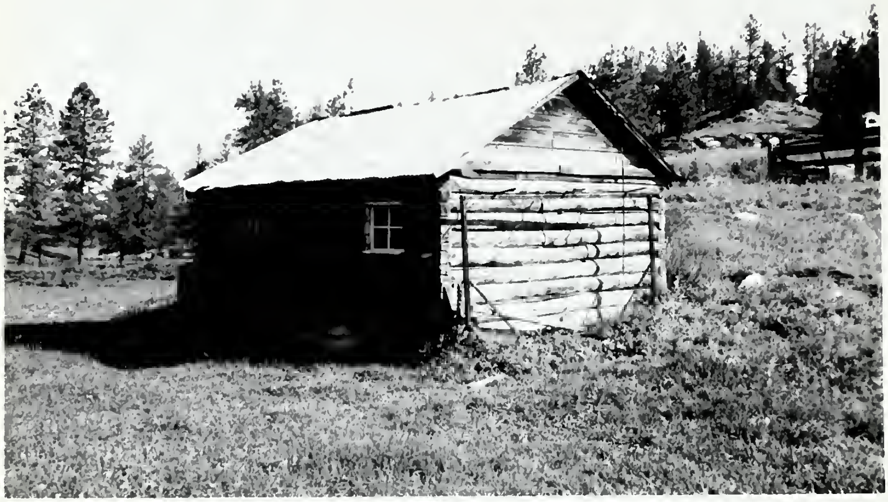
Map of the Signal Mountain coal mine (24ML399).



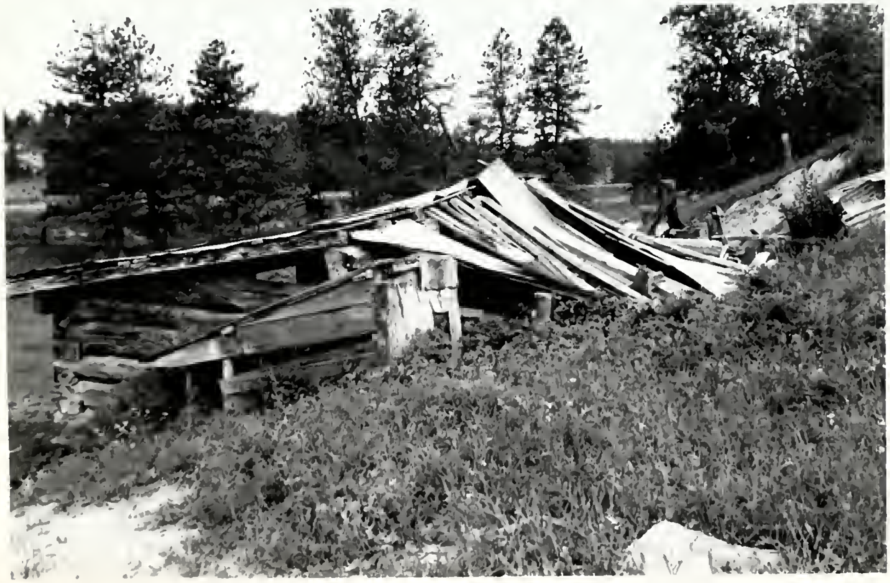
The Signal Mountain homestead and coal mine site looking northeast.



Feature 1 at the Signal Mountain homestead and coal mine site looking south.



Log cabin (feature 2) at the Signal Mountain site looking north.



Remains of a log barn (feature 3) at the Signal Mountain site (view to west).